TABLE OF CONTENTS

Amherst Facts	
Appointed Municipal Employees	
Assessor's Office and Board of Assessors	
Committees and Boards	
Committee Recognition	
Office of the Collector	26
Community Preservation Act Committee	28
Community Services/Human Services	31
Comprehensive Planning Committee	35
Conservation Commission & Conservation Department	42
Council on Aging	44
Cultural Council	46
Departmental E-mail Addresses	2
Departments and Services	1
Design Review Board	
Finance Committee	
Finance Director/Treasurer	
Fire Department	55
Health Department & Board of Health	
Historical Commission	
Housing Authority	
Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee	
Human Resources/Human Rights	
Human Rights Commission	
Information Technology	
Inspection Services	
Joint Capital Planning Committee	
Kanegasaki Sister City Committee	
Kendrick Park Committee	
La Paz Centro/Amherst Sister City Committee	
Leisure Services and Supplemental Education	
Libraries	
Oliver Smith Will/Smith Charities	
Organization Chart	
Planning Board & Planning Department	
Police Department	
Public Art Commission	
Public Shade Tree Committee	
Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee	
Public Works Committee	
Public Works Department	
Amherst Redevelopment Authority	
Amherst Public & Amherst-Pelham Regional Schools	
Select Board	
Senior Center	
Office of the Town Clerk/Board or Registrars	
Town/Commercial Relations Committee	
Town Comptroller	
•	
Town Manager Town Meetings and Elections	
•	
Town Meeting Coordinating Committee	
Zoning Board of Appeals	
AJUNE DOME OF ADDRAIS	

At Your Service

TOWN OF AMHERST DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

In Case of Emergency CALL 911 for Fire, Police, or Ambulance

Accounting		259-3026	Parks, Playgrounds, Swimming Pools	259-3065
Aging Serv	rices	259-3060	Planning Department, Planning Board	259-3040
Ambulance	e-Emergencies Only	911	Police Department:	259-3014
Animal We	elfare Officer	478-7084	Chief of Police	259-3016
Assessmen	ts	259-3024	Detective Bureau	259-3015
Building P	ermits, Inspections	259-3030	Records Bureau	259-3016
Cherry Hil	Golf Course	256-4071	Rape Hotline	259-3011
Communit	y Services Department	259-3074	Public Works Department	259-3050
Conservati	on Services	259-3045	Recreation Department	259-3065
Council on	Aging, Senior Center	259-3060	Recycling	259-3050
Design Rev	view Board	259-3040	Redevelopment Authority	259-3040
Engineerin	g	259-3050	Refuse Collection	259-3050
Finance Di	rector	259-3022	Schools:	
Fire Depart	tmentTo Report a Fire	911	Administration	362-1810
For	Other Business	259-3082	Crocker Farm	362-1600
General In	formation	259-3002	Fort River	253-9731
Health Boa	rd, Health Department	259-3077	Mark's Meadow	549-1507
Highways,	Water, Sewer, Trees	259-3050	Wildwood	362-1400
Housing A	uthority	256-0206	Regional High School	362-1700
Housing Pl	anner	259-3040	Regional Middle School	362-1850
Human Re	sources	259-3009	Select Board	259-3001
Human Rig	ghts	259-3079	Town Clerk	259-3035
Information	n Technology	259-3098	Town Manager	259-3002
Leisure Sei	vices	259-3065	Treasurer/Collector	259-3020
Libraries:	Hours and events	259-3090	Veterans' Services	259-3028
	Jones Library	259-3090	Vital Statistics and Records	259-3035
	Munson Library	259-3095	Voting, Registration	259-3035
	North Amherst Library	259-3099	Wastewater Treatment Plant	259-3050
	English as a Second	259-3093	Weights and Measures	259-3030
	Language		Wiring Permits	259-3030
Licenses		259-3035	Zoning Permits	259-3030
Maintenan	ce	259-3039	`	

DEPARTMENTAL E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Name E-mail Addresses

Accounting
Assessor's Office
Community Services
Collector/Treasurer

Council on Aging/Senior Center

Conservation
Fire Department
Health Department
Human Resources
Human Rights

Information Technology Inspection Services Leisure Services Maintenance

Parking Planning Police

Public Works Select Board Town Clerk Town Manager Veterans' Services accounting@amherstma.gov assessors@amherstma.gov community@amherstma.gov collector@amherstma.gov seniorcenter@amherstma.gov conservation@amherstma.gov

fire@amherstma.gov health@amherstma.gov

humanresources@amherstma.gov humanrights@amherstma.gov infotech@amherstma.gov inspections@amherstma.gov

lsse@amherstma.gov

maintenance@amherstma.gov

police@amherstma.gov planning@amherstma.gov police@amherstma.gov publicworks@amherstma.gov selectboard@amherstma.gov townclerk@amherstma.gov townmanager@amherstma.gov veterans@amherstsma.gov

AMHERST FACTS

U.S. SENATOR Edward M. Kennedy 362 Russell Building Washington, DC 20510 U.S. SENATOR John Kerry 315 Russell Building Washington, DC 20510 U.S. REPRESENTATIVE John W. Olver (1st District) 2300 Rayburn Building Washington, D.C. 20510

STATE SENATOR Stanley C. Rosenberg (Hampshire and Franklin District) Room 320, State House Boston, MA 02133 STATE REPRESENTATIVE Ellen Story (3rd Hampshire District) Room 167, State House Boston, MA 02133

TAX RATE \$15.68/\$1,000.00 Area 27.79 square miles

ELEVATION - 313 feet above sea level at Town Hall

LOCATION
Geodetic position of Town Hall:
Latitude – 42 degrees 22'00"
Longitude – 72 degrees 30'30"

ROAD MILEAGE (not including state highways) 105.56 Miles

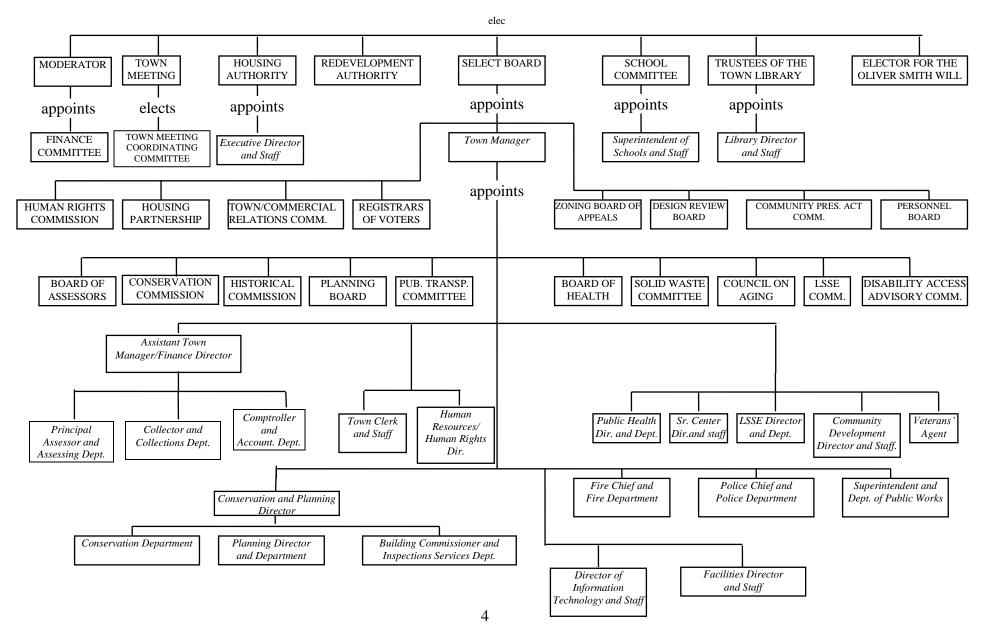
POPULATION - 34,874 (source: 2000 Federal Census)

TOWN OF AMHERST ORGANIZATION CHART



ELECTED AND APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

VOTERS



KEY:

+ Retired *** Leave of Absence
++ Laid Off @ Transferred
* Resigned @@ Position Eliminated

** Terminated # Deceased

APPOINTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

SELECT BOARD
Arcamo, Judith
Administrative Assistant

TOWN MANAGER

Laurence R. Shaffer Town Manager

@Weston, Gail Assistant to the Town Manager Seaman, Katherine E. Administrative Assistant

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

John A. Musante Finance Director/Treasurer

Boucher, Cheryl A. Asst. Treasurer

ACCOUNTING

Sonia R. Aldrich Comptroller

Bowser, Holly Asst. to the Comptroller
Fleurent, Theresa M. Payroll & Benefits Coordinator
Littmann, Kim Customer Service Assistant II

COLLECTOR

Claire E. McGinnis Collector Loven, Jennifer Asst. Collector

Cary, Cynthia★★★
Goodhind, Susan★
Customer Service Assistant II
Customer Service Assistant II
Ricker, Melissa
Customer Service Assistant II

ASSESSORS

David Burgess Principal Assessor Bouthilette-Sarna, Theresa Administrative Assistant Turati, Lori Administrative Assistant

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

Kristopher Pacunas, Sr. Director

Soucie, David Asst. Dir./Network Administrator

Hannon, Sean Network Administrator Olkin, Michael GIS Administrator Racca, Maria R. Financial Analyst

Dudkiewicz, Richard Network Systems Specialist

HUMAN RESOURCES & HUMAN RIGHTS

Eunice Torres Director

TOWN CLERK

Sandra J. Burgess. Town Clerk

Audette, Susan Assistant Town Clerk
Olanyk, Patricia J. Customer Service Assistant

PUBLIC SAFETY

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Keith E. Hovle Chief

Zlogar, Michael V. Assistant Chief Stromgren, Lindsay E. Assistant Chief

West-Davis, Vera★★★★ Management Assistant II

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Captains

Goodhind, Timothy S.★★

Johnson, James B.

McKay, Donald R.

Miner, David P

Ingram, John S. ★★

Klaus, William B. Jr.

Miner, David P

Olmstead, Jeffrey D. Sell, Jennifer Sterling, Brian C. Theilman, Paul

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Firefighters

Adair, Robert W. Jr. Bascomb, Christopher Bergeron, Casey M. Bennett, David Burgess, Nathanael R. Chandler, Steven A., Jr. Clooney, David Cooney, John T. Dion, David J. Doherty, Charles Dunn, William T. Flynn, Gary M. Frailey, Reed M. Gaughan, Stephen P. Gianetti, Lee P Gillispie, George Goodhind, Christopher Gwyther, Ryan R. Lagasse, Joseph D. Kennedy, John P. Martell, David Moriarty, Monica E. Parr, Jeffrey F. Roe, Sarah M. Roy, Michael ★★ Ryczek, Ronald E. Shanley, Joshua Singh, Jayant D. Snowden, James Szewczynski, Michael Tebo, Lawrence Valle, Thomas L.

CALL FORCE

Mientka, Edward Deputy Chief Gladu, Kevin Captain Hawkins, Michael Lieutenant Liberatore, Marc Lieutenant Lindberg, Kristen A. Lieutenant

Call Firefighters

Arbour, Bruce T. Broder, Samuel Burgess, Andrew Hart, John *Horan, Christopher *Kelly, Katherine E. Kinchla, John W. Laverty, Allison P. Lisle, Randolph T. Maguire, Steven McLinden, Matthew Nizamani, Abdullah Pollack, David Prather, Christopher Rogue, Jacabo Venman, Peter Webster, William B. Wayne, Jacob

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Charles L. Scherpa Chief

*Rocha, Maryann Administrative Assistant
Matuszko, Michele A,
Glover, William P. Records/Systems Analyst
Jolie, Joy Records Clerk

Jolie, Joy Records of Kent, Michael R. Captain + Sullivan, Timothy M. Jr. Livingstone, Scott P. Captain

Lieutenants

Gundersen, Jennifer A. O'Connor, Robert J. Pronovost, Christopher G. Young, Ronald A★★★.

Sergeants

Daly, Brian C.Johnson, BrianKnightly, David R.Menard, William N.Millar, JerryNelson, Charles H.★★★Sullivan, Michael D.

Patrol Officers

Arocho, Jesus Attesi, Megan L. Batchelor, Frank W. Bonnayer, Jeannine Clock, Noah A. Chudzik, John M. Corsetti, Dominick Damouras, James A. Epiceno, Sabino S.★★★ Feliciano, Felipe Forcum, Michael Foster, David W. Gallagher, Scott Frydryk, Matthew R. Geary, Douglas J. Guiles, Hunter J. Humber, Marcus Jackson, Glenn M. Johnson, Michael A. Knightly, Christina Lamoureux, Derick B. Lang, Todd S. Laramee, William R. Lopez, Janet MacLean, Richard Matusko, Brian T. Molin, Yvonne Newcomb, Linda Reardon, Jamie P. Rhoades, David A. Russell, Jonathan E. Seymour, Brandon M. *Tellier, Ryan Thurston, Scott C. Ting, Gabriel Tivnan, Jared R.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Wise, Gregory D.

Carol Hepburn Animal Welfare Officer

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Rita K. Burke Director

Emergency Dispatchers

Alvaro, Jessica *Brunelle, Christine Chudzik, Elizabeth Cicia, Joshua Curtin, Michael Del Pozzo, Scott *Guzik, Jennifer Kinnas, Carly Sharp, Janet M. Rushford, Jason

Suter, Whitney P. Worthley, William B.★★

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Hrasna, Malissa Enforcement Officer Enforcement Officer MacMahon, Thomas +Wheeler, Willie J.★★ **Enforcement Officer**

MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL STAFF

Imbimbo, John E. Facilities Supervisor

Building Supervisors

Cormier, Debra R. Fuller, Richard A. +Lemek, Raymond

Mosakewicz, James K.★★

Building Assistants

Bailly, Nancy P. Decker, Mary G. Thun, Robert

PLANNING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

M. David Ziomek Conservation Services Director Lass, Elizabeth Management Assistant Ciccarello, Stephanie Wetlands Technician Hutcheson, Douglas S. Land Management Assistant McKinnon, David C. Asst. Land Manager

INSPECTION SERVICES

Bonita Weeks Building Commissioner Lynch, Lorraine Administrative Assistant Waskiewicz, David **Building Inspector** French, Andrew K. Plumbing Inspector Staples, George W. Jr. Gas Inspector **Choiniere, Paul E. Wiring Inspector

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Director Jonathan Tucker *la Cour, Niels Senior Planner Brestrup, Christine M. Associate Planner Krzanowski, Susan T. Management Assistant I

HUMAN SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Roy Rosenblatt Community Services Director Taylor, Ruth Administrative Assistant

COUNCIL ON AGING

Nancy Pagano Senior Center Director Erman, Karen Management Assistant II Plante, Maura E. Congregate Housing Coordinator Mix, Giovanna Administrative Assistant Program Coordinator *Barnett, Marlene

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Epi Bodhi Health Director Federman, Julie Nurse Srey, Lauren Outreach Worker Bokina, Ellen Sanitarian Dion, Thomas H. Health Inspector Saulsberry, Leslie A. Health Educator *Drake, Kathryn Management Assistant @Taylor, Ruth Secretary II

LEISURE SERVICES & SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION

Linda L. Chalfant★★★ Director Bilz, Barbara J. Assistant Director *Kushi, Laurel ★★★ Administrative Assistant Brandts, John R. Program Director *Rogers, Carol Program Director Coelho, John Crew Supervisor Lecuivre, Anastasia Program Assistant Roy, Donna Administrative Assistant Desmarais, Patrice Customer Service Assistant Cumps, Erika Management Assistant Dumpson, Michael Management Assistant

VETERANS' SERVICES

Veterans' Agent & Graves Officer Kathleen M. Pollard

JONES LIBRARY

Bonnie Isman Library Director Radosh, Sondra Asst. Director Kimball, Tevis Curator: Special Collections Adult Services Librarian Girshman, Beth Anaya, Amy★★★ Circulation Librarian Loomis, Rosemary Reference Librarian Ryan, Janet Reference Librarian Spiegel, Marjorie N. North Amherst Librarian Hugus, Susan Munson Memorial Librarian Platt, Carolyn B. Cataloger Allan, Henry Computer Technician Swift, Tina Management Assistant II Weintraub, Lynne ESL Coordinator Rothberg, Seth★★ Circulation Supervisor Verts, Catherine Audiovisual Specialist Boyle, Cathy★★★ Special Collections Specialist

Grabigel, Bryan R. Clerk/Receptionist Building Supervisor Hicks, George F. Faith, Colin Maintenance Assistant Otero, Miguel A. Maintenance Assistant Library Assistants

Atteridge, Theresa I.

Brinkerhoff, Sylvia
Hurwitz, Ralph
Pyfrom, Joan
White, Christine H.

*Borezo, Patrick
Eve, Tomi
Lincoln, Judith
Stokes, Lace

ADMINISTRATION

Guilford B. Mooring, II Superintendent of Public Works Pariseau, Robert★★★★ Water Resources Dir./Asst. Supt.

PUBLIC WORKS

Skeels, Jason Town Engineer
Dethier, Paul G. Jr. Civil Engineer
Ehle, Eric J. Engineering Technician
Marshall, Elizabeth L. Utilities Technician

McNamee, Cheryl A. Assistant to the Superintendent Murphy, Nancy M. Management Assistant II

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Raskevitz, Paul D. Division Supervisor

MacDonald, Robert★★★ Mechanic
Willis, Rodney W. Mechanic

HIGHWAY DIVISION

Loven, Matthias Division Director
Isabelle, Kenneth ****
Longto, Keith Crew Supervisor III
Crew Supervisor III

Banks, Timothy Roadway Sign & Paint Technician

Waterman, Thomas R. Maintenance Worker

Suzuki, Yasuaki T. Laborer

Equipment Operators

Boucher, John★★ Drake, Charles III★★★★
Stacy, Gary L. Woynar, Mark★

Skilled Laborer/Truck Drivers

Barton, Robin D. *Chmiel, Kenneth Gormely, Patrick M. *Gray, Robert

Tidlund, Janice

LANDFILL AND RECYCLING

Telega, Steven Facilities Supervisor
O'Brien, Timothy Equipment Operator

Bardwell, Erik Skilled Laborer/Truck Driver

PARKS AND COMMONS

Orrell, David Crew Supervisor III
Zakaitis, Robert Jr.★ Maintenance Worker
Kosloski, Todd Maintenance Worker

*Bardwell, Jason Skilled Laborer/Truck Driver Feltovic, Stephen Skilled Laborer/Truck Driver

@Mitchell, Stanley Laborer

STREET & TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Moore, Michael K. Division Director Hartwell, Frederic P. Electrician

TREE CARE AND PEST CONTROL

LaFountain, Daniel Crew Supervisor II Mongeon, Peter Equipment Operator

Baker, Donald Laborer

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT & PUMPING STATION

Laford, James Division Director
Felton, Frederick C. Mechanic/Supervisor
Dunbar, Linda Lab Technician
Jordan, James Crew Supervisor II
Klimczyk, Duane Crew Supervisor II

Coombs, Russell Mechanic Crowley, John L. Mechanic

Bowser, Jeffrey★★ Maintenance Worker Knightly, Brian Maintenance Worker

Plant Operators

Burrows, Glenn Miraglia, Joseph J. Ritter, Harry *Young, James W.

WATER DIVISION

Osborne, Jeffrey C. Division Director
Sampson, Kevin Division Supervisor
Luippold, Thomas Treatment Operator II

Hagar, Darryl Mechanic Carlson, Peter Meter Reader

Ansaldo, Todd Skilled Laborer/Truck Driver
Bartus, Kenneth Maintenance Worker

@Bowser, Jeffrey★★ Maintenance Worker

Call, Stephen★★ Treatment Operator

Orrell, Robert J. Treatment Operator

Szwed, Michael Treatment Operator

★ Denotes recognition of 10 years of service.
 ★★ Denotes recognition of 15 years of service.
 ★★★ Denotes recognition of 20 years of service.

Denotes recognition of 25 years of service.

Denotes recognition of 30 years of service.

Denotes recognition of 35 years of service.

TOWN OF AMHERST COMMITTEES AND BOARDS FY 2008

KEY: D = Deceased

SB = Select Board Appointment G-A = Governor Appointee
TM = Town Manager Appointment R = Resigned
M = Moderator Appointment TC = Term Completion
CC = Conservation Commission Appointment V-C = Vice Chair

CC = Conservat
ALT = Alternate
C = Chair

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Ambanat Sahaal Cammit	Elected	Expires	Town Meeting Coordinating Con	<u>Elected</u>
Amherst School Commit Kathleen Anderson	2007	2010	Staff Liaison:	mittee
Elaine Brighty (VC)	1999	2010	Harry O. Brooks (VC)	2004
Andrew Churchill (C)	2004	2010	Carol Gray	2007
Sonia Correa Pope	2005	2009	Philip Jackson	2006
Chrystel Romero	2007	2008	Stephanie O'Keeffe	2006
emyster Romero	2007	2000	Margaret Roberts (C)	2005
Elector, Oliver Smith Wi	iii		Judy Simpson	2007
John W. Coull	2008	2009	Otto Stein	2004
John W. Coun	2000	2007	2 112 22 12 12	
Housing Authority			APPOINTED POSITION	
Judith Brooks	1994	2010		Appointed
Jean Haggerty (Ch.)	2006	2011	Agricultural Commission (former	rly Amherst
Peter Jessop	1999	2009	Farm Committee (SB)	
Steve Rogers	2002	2008	Staff Liaison: D. Ziomek	2007
Joan Ross Logan	1981	2012	Ruth Hazzard (C)	2007
			Linda Hess	2007
Jones Library Trustees	2005	2010	John Ingram	2007
Nonny Burack	2007	2010	Susan Pynchon	2007
Ann Grose	2003	2009	Bob Saul	2007
Patricia Holland	2005	2008	Casey Steinberg	2007
Anita Page	2002	2008	Sarah Swartz	2007
Merrylees Turner	2003	2009	Jaime Tidlund	2007
Kathleen Wang (Pres)	2004	2010	Patricia Wagner	2007
Moderator			Amherst Cultural Council (SB)	
Harrison Gregg	1994	2009	Staff Liaison: S. Radosh	
			Anne Burton	2005
Redevelopment Authorit	<u>y</u>		Edith Byron (C)	2004
Staff Liaison: J. Tucker	_		Hope Crolius	2007
Nancy Gordon	2005	2008	Ekaterinia Ites	2005
Larry Kelley	2007	2012	Laurie Nisonoff	2006
Jeanne Traester (G-A)	2006	2010	Ann Woodbridge	2006
Frances VanTreese	1994	2009		
			Audit Committee (TM)	
Select Board			Staff Liaison: J. Musante, S. Aldrid	ch
Anne Awad	2000	2009	Anne Awad	2005
Alisa Brewer	2007	2010	Willis Bridegam	2005
Stephanie O'Keeffe	2008	2011	Elaine Brighty	2005
Diana Stein	2008	2011	John Fox	2006
Gerry Weiss (C)	2004	2010	Brian Morton	2005

	Appointed		Appointed
Amherst/La Paz Centro, Nicaragua	a Sister	William Gillen	2005
City Committee (SB)		Rosemary Kofler	2006
Cynthia Asebrook	2001	Douglas Kohl	2002
Jeannie Jones	1999	Joanne Levenson	2001
Charles Milch	2004	Eric Nakajima (C)	2006
Nancy Milch	2004	James Oldham	2005
Kathleen Mullin	2006	Larry Orloff	2006
Walter Mullin	2006	Anita Page	2005
Anne Stanek (C)	2004	Barry Roberts	2006
Edward Stanek	2004	Alan Root	2002
Edward Starren	2001	Bob Saul	2006
Assessors, Board of (TM)		Claude Tellier	2006
Staff Liaison: D. Burgess		Merrylees Turner	2007
Jane Kaufman-Balis	2004	James Wald	2004
Connie Kruger	2004	Mary Wentworth	2007
Donald Wise	2004	Walter Wolnik	2004
Donaid Wise	2000	Stan Ziomek	2005
Cherry Hill Advisory Committee (TM)		2006
Staff Liaison: Musante, Chalfant, Zio		Cheryl Zoll (VC)	2000
Youssef Fadel	2002	Conservation Commission (T	M)
Toussel Padel	2002	Staff Liaison: D. Ziomek	<u>V1)</u>
Committee on Hamalaganaga (CD)			2006
Committee on Homelessness (SB)		Harvey Allen Liv Baker	
Staff Liaison: Rosenblatt	2007		2006
Vernon Francisco	2007	John Gerber (C)	2002
Stanley Maron	2007	Daniel Kaplan	2006
Jon Nelms	2007	Eleanor Manire-Gatti	2002
Reikka Simula	2007	Nicki Robb	2003
	(CD)	Otto Stein	2002
Community Development Commit	tee (SB)		
Staff Liaison: Rosenblatt	2000	Council on Aging (TM)	
Isaac BenEzra	2008	Staff Liaison: N. Pagano	•005
Paulette Brooks	2006	Daniel Clapp	2006
Mary Jane Laus	2006	Elsie Fetterman	2005
Jana McClure	2007	Janet Gorth	2007
Tamara Rutland Mills	2006	Doris Holden	2004
Claude Tellier	2006	Rosemary Kofler	2005
		Thomas McAuley	2005
Community Preservation Act Commit	tee (SB)	Stephanie O'Keeffe	2007
Staff Liaison: Aldrich		Barbara Sutherland (C)	2004
Peter Jessop	2001	David Yaukey	2006
Edith Nye MacMullen	2005		
Vladimir Morales	2006	Council on Youth (SB)	
Vincent O'Connor	2005	Staff Liaison: R. Rosenblatt	
Nicki Robb	2003	Michael Katz	2004
		Elaine Puleo	2004
Comprehensive Planning Committ	ee (SB)		
Staff Liaison: J. Tucker,		Disability Access Advisory Co	mmittee (TM)
Harvey Allen	2006	Staff Liaison: Holstein	, ,
James Bess	2006	Reginald Andrade	2007
Marilyn Blaustein	2005	Seren Derin (C)	2007
Cyrus Cox	2005	Bernadette Hait	2007
Robert Crowner	2006		_50.
Yuri Friman	2006		

	Appointed		Appointed
James MacRostie	2006	Louis Greenbaum	2007
Madeline Peters	2004	Michael Hanke	2006
Joseph Tringali	2007	Elizabeth Sharpe	2006
v osepi. 11g	_007	James Wald (C)	2002
Design Review Board (SB)		values ward (e)	2002
Staff Liaison: J. Tucker		Housing Partnership/Fair Housing	
Kathleen Fisher	2006	Committee (SB)	
Anita Licis	2005	Staff Liaison: R. Rosenblatt	
		Nancy Gregg (C)	2003
Economic Development and Indu	<u>strial</u>	Jean Haggerty	2005
Corporation		Christopher Hoffmann	2005
Staff Liaison: J. Tucker		Flo Stern	2005
Dormant		Claude Tellier	2004
		Franklin Wells	2002
Electricity Deregulation Study Cor	nmittee (SB)		
Staff Liaison:	• • • •	Human Rights Commission (SB)	
Andrew Bellak	2005	Staff Liaison: E. Torres	
Bart Bouricius	2005	Magda Ahmed (VC)	2003
Jim Brassord	2005	Kathleen Anderson	2006
Nancy Gordon	2005	Sarah Cycon	2007
TO \$7.5 (TENS.41)		Cecilia Darby	2007
Fence Viewer (TM)		Samia Elshallali	2003
Dormant		Frank Gatti	2002
Field Duissen (TM)		Lois Raj Matteo Ramos	2006 2007
<u>Field Driver (TM)</u> Dormant			2007 1999
Dormant		Reynolds Winslow (C)	1999
Finance Committee (M)		Kanegasaki Sister City Committee	(SB)
Staff Liaison: J. Musante		Staff Liaison: Pagano	
Marilyn Blaustein	2003	Nancy Bess	2004
Paul Bobrowski	2006	Denise Boyd	2004
Alice Carlozzi	1993	Stephanie Joyce	2006
Kay Moran (VC)	2004	Byron Koh (C)	1000
Brian Morton (C)	1996		1999
	2006	Helen MacMellon	2006
Douglas Slaughter	2006	Carolyn Platt	2006 2003
Andrew Steinberg	2006 2005		2006
	2005	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi	2006 2003
Andrew Steinberg	2005	Carolyn Platt	2006 2003
Andrew Steinberg Fire Station Study Committee (T	2005	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM)	2006 2003
Andrew Steinberg Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle	2005	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer	2006 2003 2006
Andrew Steinberg Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle	2005	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer Peter Blier	2006 2003 2006
Andrew Steinberg Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle DORMANT	2005	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer Peter Blier Patty Brandts	2006 2003 2006 2008 2008
Andrew Steinberg Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle DORMANT Health, Board of (TM) Staff Liaison: E. Bodhi David Ahlfield	2005 <u>M</u>) 2007	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer Peter Blier Patty Brandts Harry Oldham Brooks	2006 2003 2006 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008
Andrew Steinberg Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle DORMANT Health, Board of (TM) Staff Liaison: E. Bodhi David Ahlfield Nancy Gilbert	2005 M) 2007 2007	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer Peter Blier Patty Brandts Harry Oldham Brooks William Harris William Hutchinson Gerald Jolly	2006 2003 2006 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008
Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle DORMANT Health, Board of (TM) Staff Liaison: E. Bodhi David Ahlfield Nancy Gilbert Ellen Leahy-Pile	2005 M) 2007 2007 2007 2003	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer Peter Blier Patty Brandts Harry Oldham Brooks William Harris William Hutchinson Gerald Jolly Christina Mata	2006 2003 2006 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008
Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle DORMANT Health, Board of (TM) Staff Liaison: E. Bodhi David Ahlfield Nancy Gilbert Ellen Leahy-Pile Sandra Sulsky (C)	2005 M) 2007 2007 2003 2004	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer Peter Blier Patty Brandts Harry Oldham Brooks William Harris William Hutchinson Gerald Jolly Christina Mata Margaret Roberts (C)	2006 2003 2006 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008
Fire Station Study Committee (T. Staff Liaison: K. Hoyle DORMANT Health, Board of (TM) Staff Liaison: E. Bodhi David Ahlfield Nancy Gilbert Ellen Leahy-Pile	2005 M) 2007 2007 2007 2003	Carolyn Platt Yuko Takahashi Kendrick Park Committee (TM) Staff Liaison: Shaffer Peter Blier Patty Brandts Harry Oldham Brooks William Harris William Hutchinson Gerald Jolly Christina Mata Margaret Roberts (C) Marilyn Rodzwell	2006 2003 2006 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008 2008
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	Appointed		Appointed
LSSE Commission (TM)		Karen Kowles	2006
Staff Liaison: L. Chalfant		Peter Lillya	2007
Peter Blier	2004	Andrew Melnechuk	2006
James Patulak	2005	Frances VanTreese	2007
Afranio Torres Neto	2005	Helene Ver Eecke	2006
Stan Ziomek	2001	Franklin Wells (C)	2004
		Mark Zinan	2006
Munson Memorial Building Trus	stees (TM)	Dall's Washe Committee (CD)	
Staff Liaison:	2005	Public Works Committee (SB)	
Aaron Hayden	2005	Staff Liaison: Mooring	2007
Claudia O'Brien	2001 2007	Steven Braun Michael Cann	2007
Janice Ratner	2007		1998 2004
Nama Vanna Sistan Cita Cammi	44.00 (CD)	Robert Crowner (C)	2004
Nyeri, Kenya Sister City Commi	ttee (SD)	Donald George Charles Moran	2006
Staff Liaison:	2007	Vincent O'Connor	2004
Julie Jones	2007	Steve Puffer	200 4 1989
Jonathan O'Keeffe	2007	Steve Fuller	1989
Parking Commission (SB)		Recycling & Refuse Management	<u>Committee</u>
Staff Liaison: J. Tucker		<u>(TM)</u>	
Dormant		Staff Liaison: Mooring/Waite	2004
		Harvey Allen	2001
Personnel Board (SB)		Clare Bertrand	2004
Staff Liaison: Torres		Janet Brown	2006
D. Anthony Butterfield	2006	Pat Church	1997
Jacquelyn Smith-Crooks	2007	Marianne Lorenzelli	2007
Flo Stern (C)	2004	Lucy McMurrer	2006
Kathleen Wang	2004	Margaret Vickery (C)	2003
Planning Board (TM)		Registrar of Voters (SB)	
Staff Liaison: J. Tucker		Staff Liaison: S. Burgess	
Kathleen Anderson	2006	Harry Oldham Brooks	2006
Denis Barberet	2007	Sandra Burgess (Town Clerk)	2006
Aaron Hayden (C)	2003	Barbara Fenton	2005
Richard Howland	2006	Gladys Rodriguez	1995
Jonathan O'Keeffe	2007	T (G 11D1)	(CD)
Ludmilla Pavlova-Gillham	2007	Town/Commercial Relations Com	mittee (SB)
Susan Pynchon	2006	Staff Liaison: J. Tucker	2006
Jonathan Shefftz	2007	Leslie Arriola	2006
Eduardo Suarez	2006	Jeffrey Blaustein	2006
		Leigh Dunlap	2006
Public Art Commission (SB)		Peter Grandonico, Jr.	2002
Staff Liaison: S. Radosh	2007	Donna Kelley Jeff Krauth	2007 2007
Sylvia Cuomo	2007		2007
Carl Erikson	2005	Mark Parent (C)	2002
Harriet Goodwin	2005	Barry Roberts	2006
Mary McCarthy	2006	Water Supply Protection Commit	too
Terry Rooney (C)	2004	(formerly Aquifer Protection Comm	
Lawrence Siddall	2005	Staff Liaison: Pariseau/Mooring	nuce) (11V1)
Public Transportation & Bicycle Co	mmittee (SB)	Steve Dunn	2007
Staff Liaison: J. Tucker		Stephen Mabee	2007
Jane Ashby (VC)	2006	W. Jesse Schwalbaum	2007
Calvin Brower	2005	John Tobiason	2007

Lyons Witten (C)	Appointed 2007
Zoning Board of Appeals (SB)	
Staff Liaison: C. Brestrup	
Jane Ashby (Assoc)	2005
Barbara Ford (Full 2006)	2003
Russell Frank (Assoc)	2005
Hilda Greenbaum (Assoc)	2005
Edward Rising (Full 2004)	2002
Thomas Simpson (Full 2003)	2000
Albert Woodhull (Assoc)	2006

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Pioneer Valley Joint Transportation

Committee

Guilford Mooring	2002
Jason Skeels	2002

Public Shade Tree Committee (CC) Staff Liaison: D. Ziomek

Staff Liaison: D. Ziomek	
Robert Erwin	2004
William Hutchinson	1997
H. Dennis Ryan	2006
Otto Stein	2006

<u>Tree Warden (TM)</u> Staff Liaison:

Alan Snow 2007

Constables 2007-2008 (TM)

Broussard, James A Commager, Mary Daly, Brian C Dean, Samuel R. Dubuc, Michael

Grundstrom, Leonard M.
Gundersen, Jennifer A.
Hrasna, Malissa J.
Hepburn, Carol A.
Keedy, James R.
Kellogg, Winthrop
Kent, Michael R.
Knightly, David R. Jr.

Lee, Matthew Lenart, Michael F. Leverett, Eddie Livingstone, Scott MacMahon, Thomas

McCarthy, James E.

Lafond, Joseph

McKenzie, Llewllyn Menard, William N. Merullo, Wilfred A.

Millar, Jerry

Nelson, Charles H. III O'Connor, Robert J. O'Connor, Thomas J. Olanyk, Kelly P.

Perez, Mark

Peterman, Janice S. Pronovost, Christopher Robert, Thomas W. Robinson, Donald S. Jr.

Rocasah, Joseph Scherpa, Charles L.

Shea, Jeffrey

Shumway, Wilbur Smead, Fredrick C.D. Smigiel, Theodore

Snow, Mark A.

Sullivan, Michael D. Sullivan, Timothy M.

Ting, Kelson

Trompke, David E.

Weeks, Bonita J.

Wheeler, Willie J.

Young, Ronald A.



Town of Amherst Committee Recognition

The Town of Amherst relies on the energy and commitment of those citizens who participate each year on the many boards and committees that are an integral part of our form of government. These citizens volunteer their time and expertise to help improve the quality of life in our community. The Town is indeed fortunate to be able to depend on the hard work and dedication of its committee members. The following citizens have completed their service of at least two full, three-year terms

SELECT BOARD, TOWN MANAGER AND MODERATOR APPOINTEES:

Council on Aging Housing Partnership/Fair Housing

Elsie Fetterman 2002 – 2008 Committee

Franklin Wells 2002 – 2008

(Posthumous Recognition)

Comprehensive Planning Committee

 Douglas Kohl
 2002 – 2008

 Joanne Levenson
 2001 -- 2008

Public Works Committee

<u>Conservation Commission</u>
Eleanor Manire-Gatti 2002 – 2008

Steve Puffer 1989 – 2008

<u>Finance Committee</u> <u>Town/Commercial Relations</u>

Alice Carlozzi 1993 – 2008 <u>Committee</u>

Peter Grandonico, Jr. 2002 – 2008

SELECT BOARD

Fiscal Year 2008

The Select Board began FY 08 with members Anne Awad, Alisa Brewer, Rob Kusner, Hwei-Ling Greeney and Gerry Weiss. After the Annual Town Election in the spring, Mr. Kusner and Ms. Greeney were replaced by Diana Stein and Stephanie O'Keeffe. The service and dedication of Mr. Kusner and Ms. Greeney were much appreciated.

Documenting every action the Select Board takes in a given year would require creating a small book, so we will try to summarize where possible, give a flavor of the work of the Select Board and highlight what we feel have been important developments.

Direction/Encouragement of Town Manager:

- Recommended reconsideration of policy to charge groups using the Common for Police details; policy was tabled due to dissatisfaction that it could be equitably applied in current form
- Conducted first evaluation of Larry Shaffer
- Encouraged formation of Blue Ribbon Task Force to analyze potential to consolidate certain staffing and administrative efforts of Schools and Town
- Supported ongoing negotiations with institutions of higher education; one result –
 unrestricted gift from Amherst College and an increase in the University's
 contribution to the Town for Fire/EMS services in a Strategic Partnership
 Agreement
- Mr. Shaffer suggested closing Town Hall offices on Thursday mornings to increase productivity and efficiency. The SB agreed with the idea which has now been in place for over a year with no significant inconvenience to the public
- Encouraged the Town Manager in his discussions with Pelham, Hadley, Leverett, Shutesbury and Sunderland about ambulance service payments

Day-to-Day Business:

- Improved our understanding of upcoming and ongoing zoning Town Meeting warrant articles through Select Board representation at the Zoning Subcommittee meetings of the Planning Board, and by providing updates to colleagues at Select Board meetings
- Made recommendations on warrant articles for Fall Town Meeting and supported several important Zoning Bylaw amendments which passed, including: rezoning of the intersection of College Street and South East Street to encourage mixed residential and commercial development, increasing the viability of the Professional Research Park zone by allowing visits from clients by appointment and allowing inns as a by-right use with Site Plan Review in the downtown business district; and allowing increased research and development on University Drive
- Began voting formal deadlines for the submission of citizen petitions for Town Meeting warrant articles
- Made recommendations on warrant articles for Spring Town Meeting, supporting Historical Preservation (Woman's Club Carriage House, Kimball House) and

Affordable Housing (Olympia Drive project); recommended that Town Meeting support a ballot initiative to increase the CPA surcharge from 1.5% to 3%. Recommended the establishment of a Municipal Parking District as well as other important zoning changes; recommended new policy to help reduce false burglar alarm calls by fining faulty alarm owners; supported rescission of outdated DNA bylaw; supported instituting a Nuisance house bylaw to help control offensive partying in residential neighborhoods; did not support the rezoning of 500-02 Sunderland Road

- Continued to discuss the purpose of designating some Town boards and committees as having "special municipal employee" status rather than simply "municipal employee" status, and the role of applicants and appointees in understanding these designations
- Continued to discuss the role of community participation in Select Board meetings; whether time limits should be applied to general public comment, under what circumstances public comment would be taken during Select Board discussion of individual agenda items, etc
- Continued to work on balancing the Select Board decisions that had to be made
 on properties as they came to market, e.g., Haskins View/East Leverett Road
 Self-Help Grant, 539 Market Hill Road Chapter 61A, while awaiting potential
 availability of Community Preservation Act funding and the completion of the
 Master Plan, which was based on extensive community engagement
- Continued to discuss the relationship of the Select Board to the Amherst and Amherst Regional School Committees regarding the budget process, particularly around elementary school class size, the Amherst Community Aquatics Center/Middle School pool, and the use of Regional reserves
- Filled a vacant ARA position by joint election with the remaining ARA members
- Worked to encourage advocates for the homeless to participate in various committees and efforts associated with this Amherst and Pioneer Valley issue
- Amherst and Hadley officials discussed opportunities for working together, and with UMass, on economic development and other issues facing the two communities. The Amherst Select Board met with the Hadley Select Board in Hadley Town Hall August 15
- Approved charge for Water Supply Protection Committee, a new committee expanding on and superseding the charge of the Aquifer Protection Committee
- Encouraged municipal and school patronage of local businesses when possible under state procurement limitations
- Approved charge for Nyeri, Kenya Sister City Committee
- Adopted equal tax rate without an open space discount, and declined residential and small commercial exemption options
- Dissolved UMass voting subprecincts, per request of the UMass Student Government Association
- Accepted Deed for Haskins View East Leverett Road property, approved for acquisition at Fall 2007 Town Meeting;
- Discussed the Select Board role in appointing applicants to boards and committees and Select Board responsibility for the functioning of the boards and committees under the Amherst Town Government Act and in practice

- Discussed the role of the Select Board Chair in meetings of other bodies where the Select Board had not voted a position on matters to be discussed
- Filled a vacant Library Trustee position by joint election with the remaining Library Trustees
- Opted not to exercise right of first refusal for properties on Market Hill Road and Bay Road
- Made adjustments in meetings to allow citizen oriented business to be handled early in the evening
- Minutes taken by Ms. O'Keeffe, beginning in May, saving staff time and allowing minutes to be completed and posted more quickly
- Added regular liaison reports and expanded Town Manager reporting to weekly meetings
- Began work of paring down the number of committees. All committee appointments are now done by a team of two SB members
- Requested that a complaint management system be instituted by IT, which is now operational
- Approved several road and sidewalk projects, for example, the northern end of S.
 Pleasant Street
- Helped secure the donation of over 30 large flower pots for downtown
- Increased water and sewer rates
- Increased Ambulance fees for emergency medical services
- Voted that Town equipment would no longer be used in private parades after the July 4, 2008 parade and voted (4:1) to not officially participate in the 2008 parade
- Worked to define our roles as liaisons and representatives of multiple Town boards and committees

Budget Process

Continued efforts to improve Select Board participation and public input in to budget process:

- Rejected a proposal to use a Special Town Meeting format and instead supported a community forum to provide information on the financial situation and have a discussion about override options
- Held joint meeting with the Finance Committee to hear Regional and Elementary School budget plans
- Met on a Saturday in February to discuss budget priorities
- Worked in tandem with the Finance Committee, the Budget Coordinating Committee, the Town Manager and Finance Director to present a unified budget for the Annual Town Meeting

Informing Public through SB Discussions:

- Held public hearings in advance of the Community Development Block Grant application
- Heard presentations for all Fall and Annual (Spring) Town Meeting articles
- Previewed the complaint/request tracking system planned for next generation of Town web site

- Discussed plans and potential uses for the new reverse-911 automated phone system
- Discussed possible implications to Amherst of a court decision finding Newton's improvement of recreation land to be an ineligible use of CPA funds
- Discussed Town Manager's plans to undertake feasibility study for downtown Business Improvement District
- Arranged to host public viewing of a webcast of "The 2% Solution" and discussion of energy conservation ideas (technical difficulties prevented the viewing, but the discussion still occurred). An update of the Town's Climate Action Plan was also presented
- Heard from PVTA Administrator regarding budget issues, plans to deal with shoveling/plowing of bus stops, and opportunities for refurbishing/replacing bus shelters
- Heard updates on road issues, including traffic calming efforts, the status of the light on North Pleasant St. at Fearing, the status of the Atkins Corner project, plans for improvements to University Drive, downtown sidewalk work and sidewalk snowplowing policy
- Heard a presentation by Alan Snow, Tree Warden on a plan for tree maintenance
- Three-term Select Board member Anne Awad announced her resignation as of August 31 citing fear for her safety, prompting her to move up her timetable of relocation to another town.

Citizen Assistance:

- Addressed garbage situation for areas near UMass in the Lincoln Ave. and Fearing St. neighborhood
- Heard concerns about past Town Meeting action supporting childcare subsidies, resulting in Town Manager identifying available funds

Support for Causes:

- Signed citizen petition letter urging legislators to prevent a U.S.-led attack on Iran
- Signed letter supporting Environmental Bond Bill put forth by Massachusetts Audubon Society
- Voted to support MMA's resolution requesting that the legislature distribute 40% of the State tax levy to cities and towns (approved Ms. Greeney casting Amherst's vote of support at the MMA annual convention)
- Voted to support ICLEI's "State of the Climate" document
- Voted to co-sponsor the Richard Heinberg talk and events on Peak Oil and Global warming

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TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Fiscal Year 2008

Introduction

This year has seen important achievements in the Town of Amherst. The Finance Department will discuss the dramatic improvement in the condition of the Town's Health Insurance Trust Fund, ending the year with a surplus of over \$2,000,000. It was only three years ago that the Health Insurance Trust Fund was in deficit by over \$500,000. Second, the Town Meeting, after much hard work by the Planning Board, Select Board and the Planning Department adopted seven zoning ordinances designed to remove small but important impediments in zoning that restricted economic development. Third, discussions began in earnest to secure the rights to approximately forty acres of land zoned Professional Research Park in North Amherst.

I am deeply grateful for the tremendous support received from the Town departments. Daily, I am reminded of their incomparable professional capability and deep commitment to the people of Amherst. I would also like to congratulate former Select Board members Hwei-Ling Greeney and Rob Kusner for their great accomplishments during their tenure on the Amherst Select Board.

Summary of Activities

Emergency Management

An area that I have been particularly focused upon over the last year has been emergency management. A new emergency management plan has been prepared by Mike Zlogar, Assistant Fire Chief, and has been exercised twice over the last year. No one could remember the last time the original emergency management plan had been exercised. We learned a great deal at the exercises and have modified the emergency operation center and its procedures in accordance with what was learned. A reverse 911 system, capable of telephoning all citizens in the community was acquired and tested successfully. This system allows the Town to contact all or portions of the community by telephone for emergency notification. Citizens, in turn, may add or delete phone numbers off of the Town's website as they see fit. The Health Department, in conjunction with the Five College organization, has been planning for the emergency dispensing of vaccine, in response to the concerns for bio-terrorism and a flu epidemic. That planning includes a facilities study to ascertain the appropriateness of a number of buildings in the community of accommodate emergency dispensing of vaccine.

Kendrick Park

With the conveyance of the title to the Town of the three-acre triangular property located within the bounds of Triangle, North Pleasant and East Pleasant Streets, Amherst has the unique opportunity to plan and create an urban park. This property is the gift of George and Jenny Kendrick, whose estate required that a public park be created. Presently, Kendrick Park is an open parcel with no amenities. A committee has been created to consider the various options for the improvement and use of Kendrick Park, along with planning for how such improvements might be funded. It is not often that a community has the opportunity to create public space in

the center of a town. I look forward to working with the Kendrick Park Committee to plan for the creation of a wonderful public space.

Business Improvement District – Downtown

With the urging of the Promoting Downtown Amherst (PDA) organization, I successfully applied for funding to the Department of Housing and Community Development, Main Street Initiative, to employ a consultant to study the creation of a Business Improvement District (BID) for downtown Amherst. This system, if adopted, would provide supplemental services to enhance the promotion and attractiveness of a downtown. Those supplemental services might include event promotion, downtown beautification such as flowers and shrubs purchase and maintenance, sidewalk cleaning, signs, graffiti maintenance, marketing, parking and other services that are more logically provided through collaboration amongst the merchants. A BID must be approved by a super majority of the property owners within the district in order to be established. A conference with communities that presently operate a BID (Springfield, Westfield, and Hyannis) was held in Amherst. Much was learned of this exciting system at the conference.

Regionalization of Police, Fire and Ambulance Dispatch

I created a regional team last year to consider what opportunities, if any, might exist to consolidate emergency response dispatch among the University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMass), the Town of Hadley and the Town of Amherst. Each entity presently provides its own dispatching with a degree of redundancy and cost duplication. With financial incentives provided by the State 9-1-1 Fund, there may be an opportunity to consider creating a regional dispatch center, funded in part by the State. The next step in this process will be for the three entities to consider funding a feasibility study. A decision will be reached in the fall of 2008 if the next step might be taken.

Health Department – rDNA Regulations

The Health Department and the Board of Health, with the assistance of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, completely reviewed and revised rDNA regulations of the Town of Amherst. This important achievement is critical as the Town pursues those entities with such a background, to develop or expand within Amherst. The new regulations ensure that the Town has an up-to-date procedure that fully provides clear guidelines to entities that employ rDNA and protection to the members of the community.

Amherst Winter Festival

The Leisure Service and Supplemental Education Department (LSSE) created the first Amherst Winter Festival. Conducted at Cherry Hill Golf Course, hundreds of people attended, to watch and participate in the sled races, to enjoy horse and carriage rides, to listen to great music and to enjoy the beautiful winter scene. The weather cooperated, snowing with just enough vigor to cover the grounds with a fresh coat of snow. The event was conducted in partnership with our great friends, the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce. This important first-time event provided us the opportunity to show off the great beauty of Cherry Hill and to allow the community to think of Cherry Hill as something other than a golf course. Cherry Hill is a

magnificent public asset and it was certainly enjoyed on that crystal winter day by many of our friends and citizens.

Amherst College

The relationship between Amherst College and the Town of Amherst could not be better. Last year, Amherst College gave an unrestricted gift to the Town of \$120,000.00. Further, Amherst College continues to urge the Town to share information about its needs as it pursues economic development opportunities. With the recent commitment of Amherst College to renovate the Lord Jeffery Inn and to create a conference center, Amherst College has established the important role that it plays in enhancing and stabilizing downtown Amherst. Long term, I hope to be able to build on the terrific relationship that Amherst College and the Town of Amherst enjoys to the benefit of both.

I look forward to working with the Select Board, Town Meeting, committees and boards to meet the needs of our citizens. Amherst is a beautiful jewel and its sheen is the result of your efforts.

ASSESSORS OFFICE AND BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Fiscal Year 2008

The members of the Board of Assessor's for FY 08 were Connie Kruger, Jane Kaufman-Balis and Donald Wise. Connie was elected as Chair of the Board.

The Board voted to maintain valuations for FY 08 at the same level as FY 07 recognizing the slowing of the real estate market. Although the pace of sales slowed in calendar year 2006 the median sales price was at the same level as 2005.

The Board supported Town Meeting Article 4:

Personal Property Exemptions: To see if the Town will authorize the maximum exemption of up to \$5000 for personal property accounts of \$5000 or less under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54th of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The Board met on November 15, 2007 with the Select Board to discuss consideration of a split residential commercial rate and the possible adoption of the Residential Exemption. The Select Board must make a determination for each of these options each year. The Principal Assessor and the Board of Assessors provide information and recommendation regarding the annual determination. In FY 08 the Board Assessors recommended against the split rate because its adoption could further dampen the vitality of Amherst's business sector the Board also voted against the Residential Exemption.

The Board of Assessors held 9 meetings in FY 08 and had two meetings with the Select Board.

FY 2008 TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

(A) Class	(B) Levy Percentage	(C) Levy by Class	(D) Valuation Class	(E) Tax Rate (C)-(D) X1000(A)
Residential	90.5166%	30,228,161.94	1,886,900,759	16.02
Open Space				
Commercial	6.8503%	2,287,668.54	142,799,941	16.02
Industrial	0.2308%	77,076.03	4,811,600	16.02
Personal Prop.	2.4023%	802,251.89	50,079,360	16.02
TOTAL	100.00%		2,084,591,660	****

AMHERST BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Fiscal Year 2008 (7/1/07 - 6/30/2008)

The Amherst Board of Assessors held 9 public meetings during FY 08. Board activities associated with these meetings are summarized in the following report. Details on the information in this report can be found in the minutes of the Board of Assessors meetings. The Board also had joint meetings with the Select Board to discuss a potential residential exemption and the classification hearing.

REAL/PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

Commitments/Warrants

The Board signed summary FY 08 property tax commitments and water/sewer warrants for the following:

Real Estate Tax	\$32	2,607,135.36
CPA	\$	347,915.25
Personal Property	\$	802,271.36
Water Liens Interest	\$	6,385.80
Water Liens	\$	63,024.38
Sewer Liens	\$	58,408.00
Sewer Liens Interest	\$	6,019.34
Rollback Tax	\$	732.72
Omitted	\$	16.02
Pro-Rata	\$	1,315.49

Abatements

Of 86 applications for abatement in FY 08 real/personal property tax, 47 were approved for some reduction in tax and 39 were denied any abatement.

Personal Exemptions and Deferrals

The Board signed a form that was submitted to the Department of Revenue for partial reimbursement of FY 08 personal exemptions. For FY 08 there were a total of 133 personal exemptions and deferrals totaling \$133,534.17 as follows:

	<u>#</u>	<u>Value</u>	#		<u>Value</u>
Clause 17D	11	\$ 4,084.33	Clause 37A	10	\$ 7,558.27
Clause 18	0	0.00	Clause 41C	40	58,898.67
Clause 22	61	47,788.64	Clause 41A	6	12,704.26
Clause 50		2500.00			

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

Abatements

The following total amounts of motor vehicle excise tax abatements for July 2007 through June 2008 were signed by the Board:

2004	1,247.92
2005	1,343.95
2006	11,193.64
2007	44,227.54
2008	145,780.54

Commitments/Warrants

Motor Vehicle excise tax commitments and warrants for the following yearly totals were signed by the Board:

2005	7,540.94
2006	45,774.34
2007	256,183.24
2008	1,468,430.36

SPECIAL MEETINGS

The Select Board is responsible for allocation of the tax rate (Minimum Residential Factor): whether or not to have a Residential Exemption, and other distributions of the tax burden within classes as allowed by the law. The required public meeting to discuss these issues was held on November 15, 2007 in the Town Hall. Board of Assessors' recommendations included not to have a split rate and not to exercise the Residential Exemption. The Select Board approved a single tax rate for all classes and no shifts of the tax burden within classes.

TAX RATE/ETC.

Board members signed the Tax Rate Recapitulation form for FY 08 on December 5, 2007, showing a tax rate of \$16.02. The rate was reviewed and approved by the Department of Revenue (DOR) on December 11, 2007.

Prepared from the Board meeting minutes.

For: Constance Kruger Donald Wise Jane Kaufman-Balis

Amherst Board of Assessors

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR

Central Services

Fiscal Year 2008

The Collector's Office maintains the Central Service Counter in addition to the ongoing work of billing and collecting real estate and personal property taxes, water and sewer bills, ambulance bills, refuse bills and motor vehicle excise bills. This office also issues parking permits and collects parking ticket fees. The Central Services concept is quite unique in municipal government, consolidating some Town Clerk, Treasurer, Accounting and Assessing functions in a single point of service for the public and internal departments. Our Collections staff that successfully accomplishes the resulting workload is a valuable Town asset.

Fiscal year 2008 reduced our staff by 1 of 6 full time positions. Fewer hours are required in ambulance billing as the direct result of the laptops in ambulances. To cover general office duties, Assessors staff also came forward to cover 10 hours of counter work each week, and we obtained approval to work while closed to the public on Thursday mornings.

FY 08 collections continue to be strong against the levy in taxes and utilities. At year end, over 98% of the real estate and personal property 2008 commitments had been collected, net of abatements. This is an important number for the fiscal health of the Town, supporting our cash flow, our ability to borrow and our bond rating. Ambulance Collections went up another 1%, after a jump of 5% last year. Collection in all receivable types is detailed in the following page.

We spent FY 08 fully implementing process improvements for prior years. Parking Violation administration in MUNIS software is an ongoing challenge, requiring our focus to complete all processes related to reconciling the receivables, adding late fines, printing late notices and marking and clearing with the Registry of Motor Vehicles. We continue to work to add parking violations to the online payment menu. The website upgrade, live on August 15, also required our attention. Check out the Collections Calendar by drilling down from the Finance Department and announcements available for tax payment deadlines and parking updates through the Notify-Me option on the main menu.

I'd like to thank the residents and taxpayers in Town of another year of working together, and the staff in particular for their hard work and humor.

Respectfully submitted,

Clair Mcs

Claire McGinnis Town Collector

	TAX	Beginning Balance		Less Abatements	Transfers To Tax Title/	Less	Uncollected Balance %	Collected
	RATE	JULY 1,2007	Commitments	& Transfers	Deferred Tax	Collections	JUNE 30,2008	(Inc. Bbal)
REAL ESTAT	ΓE	,						, , , , , ,
FY 05	16.69	\$3,917		15	3,903		О	
FY06	15.06	\$19,784		18,110	18,601	(16,926)	О	
FY07	15.68	\$507,815		21,845	116,469	343,063	26,438	
FY08	16.02		32,592,887	151,972	12,704	31,989,205	439,006	98.619
		\$531,516	\$32,592,887	\$191,942	\$151,677	\$32,315,342	\$465,444	
OTHER REA	L ESTATE TAX T	YPES						
Supplemental	l Taxes	\$5,702	\$14,248			\$19,950	(\$0)	
Rollback Taxe	es	\$0	1,697			1,697	O	
ProForma/Pro	oRata	(\$1)	7,698	3,849		3,849	(1)	
		\$5,701	\$23,642	\$3,849	\$0	\$25,496	(\$1)	
PERSONAL I	PROPERTY							
FY 02	19.00	\$197					197	
FY 03	17.11	\$272				125	147	
FY 04	17.40	\$581				470	111	
FY 05	16.69	\$295				212	83	
FY06	15.06	\$1,971				900	1,071	
FY07	15.68	\$7,081				5,129	1,952	
FY08	16.02		802,271	416		791,255	10,600	98.68%
	_	\$10,397	\$802,271	\$416	\$0	\$798,091	\$14,161	
MOTOR VEH	IICLE EXCISE							
PRIOR YEAR		83,608				837	82,771	
FY 02	25.00	16,971				918	16,053	
FY 03	25.00	16,454				667	15,787	
FY 04	25.00	21,651		1,248		1,487	18,916	
FY 05	25.00	24,118	7,541	1,344		9,132	21,183	
FY06	25.00	34,770	45,774	11,194		46,074	23,276	
FY07	25.00	95,806	256,183	44,228		256,061	51,700	
FY08	25.00	0	1,467,168	145,781		1,222,255	99,132	92.50%
		\$293,378	\$1,776,666	\$203,795	\$0	\$1,537,430	\$328,819	
WATER RATES		\$377,240	\$3,802,042	(\$462)	\$63,024	\$3,646,566	\$470,154	87.249
LIENS		\$4.701	63.073	1.517	3.101	56.255	6.901	07.217
	_	\$381,941	\$3,865,115	\$1,055	\$66,125	\$3,702,821	\$477,055	
SEWER								
RATES		\$428,900	\$3,557,159	\$44,128	\$58,408	\$3,433,481	\$450,042	87.10%
LIENS		\$4,968	58,408	1,483	3,221	52,678	5,994	
	_	\$433,868	\$3,615,567	\$45,611	\$61,629	\$3,486,160	\$456,035	
AMBULANCE		\$560,324	\$2,441,861	\$812,463		\$1,640,016	\$549,706	74.90%
Collected afte	er abate	\$560,324	\$2,441,861	\$812,463	\$0	20,650 \$1,660,666	0 \$549,706	
					**			
COMM. LANI REFUSE LIE		\$9,670 \$0	\$118,690	(\$388)		\$116,375 0	\$12,373 0	90.39%
	_	\$9,670	\$118,690	(\$388)	\$0	\$116,375	\$12,373	
PARKING FII		\$329,095	\$306,354	\$24,207		\$248,316	\$362,926	40.62%
Collected afte	er abate	\$329,095	\$306,354	\$24,207	\$0	30 \$248,346	<u>0</u> \$362,926	88.01%
			ψ500,334	ψ ∠4 ,∠U1	φυ	Ψ240,340	ψ302,920	
COMMUNITY	Y PRESERVATION FY05	N ACT	26	26			0	
	FY06	88	20	26 181	88	(181)	0	
	FY06 FY07	88 2,717		181 202	697	1,818	0	
	FY07 FY08	2,717	347,941	1.984	097	342.874	3,083	99.119
	1 100	\$2,803	\$347,941	\$2,393	\$785	\$344,511	3,083	99.117
		Ψ2,003	ψο-1,301	ΨΖ,333	Ψ100	Ψ344,311	3,003	

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) was adopted by Amherst voters in April 2001, which established a local fund based on a 1% tax surcharge (subsequently amended to 1.5%) on property valuations above \$100,000 "for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; for the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use; for the creation, preservation and support of community housing; and for the rehabilitation or restoration of open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created." The law also established a State Trust Fund, from which annual allocations are made to towns that have accepted the Act, partially or fully matching local appropriations. To date, local allocations have been matched 100% by the state and have allowed for a wide range of projects to be undertaken.

The Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) is charged with assessing the needs of the Town in those areas identified by the Act, and recommending relevant expenditures to Town Meeting. By state law, CPA funds are to be spent <u>only</u> on community housing, historic preservation, open space, and recreation. A minimum of 10% of the available funds (from the surcharge and the state match) must be set aside each year (although not necessarily spent) for each of three categories of community housing, historical preservation, and open space. Recreation is the fourth recipient, or beneficiary, but is not mandated to receive the minimum 10%.

In allocating the Community Preservation Act 1.5% surcharge and matching state funds the Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) committed to:

- a) Advancing projects currently underway
- b) Projects broadly supported across committees and Town departments, or
- c) Meeting ongoing legal obligations.

Under the Community Preservation Act, cities and towns are required to spend 10% of collected funds on each of the three following categories:

- Affordable Housing creation and support
- Historic Building and Landscape acquisition and preservation
- Open Space acquisition and preservation.

The remaining 70% may be directed toward any of the above three categories or for land used as Recreation Space.

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2007	\$ 207,054.46
Current Year Tax Surcharge 1.5%	\$ 341,085.23
State Reimbursements	\$ 220,612.00
Other	\$ 54,718.89
Appropriations or Reserves made	\$ (627,766.00)
ENDING FUND BALANCE JUNE 30, 2008	\$ 195,704.58

CPA Appropriations by Category:

FY 08 APPROPRIATED BY CATEGORY

Project	Commur Housin	•	Historic reservation		Open Space	F	Recreation	TOTAL
Management of mortgage subsidy program Mortgage subsidy loan for low and or moderate income Amherst resident to purchase home in	5	,000						
Amherst	150	,000						
West Cemetery- Town Tomb engineering study		,	5,000					
575 North East street(Kimball Farm) contribution Archival Material Conservation/Restoration			25,600					
Town Clerk - special collections			5,000					
Library - special collections			5,000					
Interpretive Signs - (historic district/building/site)			10,000					
Interpretive Publications (East Village District)			3,000					
Historic Register nominations-Bay rd Corridor			10,000					
Archeological site surveys-Bay rd Intersection Mass. Historical Commission Survey & Planning			7,500					
grant match Historic Preservation Restrictions surveys &			20,000					
appraisals			10,000					
Town Hall Renovations - Steps and Clock Tower			\$ 100,000					
Plum Brook Athletic Fields - Debt Service							43,666	
Open Space Surveys and appraisals					15,000			
APR North Amherst farm block (Cowls parcel)					90,000			
Cushman Brook wildlife corridor					123,000			
Appropriated FY 08	155,000	201,100		228,000		43,666		627,766
Total By Category	24.7%	32.0%		36.3%		7.0%		100.0%

CPAC members in 2008:

Peter Jessop (Chair) Housing Authority

Elisa Campbell at Large

Audrey Child Housing Partnership

Stanley Ziomek LSSE

Rod Francis Planning Board

Edith MacMullen Historical Commission

Vincent O'Connor at Large

Nicki Robb Conservation Commission

Vladimir Morales at Large

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2008

The Amherst Community Services Department provides a variety of services to Amherst families and the Amherst community. During FY 05, the Community Services Department's responsibilities increased significantly; during August 2005, the Director of Community Services was appointed staff liaison to the Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee, and when the Town was notified it had been designated a Mini-Entitlement community by the state Department of Housing and Community Development, the Director of Community Services also became responsible for managing the Town's Community Development Block Grant program.

The Director of Community Services continues to 1. administer Town appropriations to human service agencies, 2. provide emergency assistance to low-income individuals and families, using interest from the Alfred Field Charitable Trust Fund, 3. assess community needs with respect to childcare and human services, 4. develop new programs that respond to community priorities, 5. work collaboratively with numerous committees and groups that provide important services to the Amherst community, and 6. provide staff assistance to the Community Development Committee (formerly the Human Services Funding Committee).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

During the summer of FY 08 the Town received notification that its FY 07 grant was approved for \$275,000. The Community Services Department began program implementation during the fall of FY 08 by responding to a series of special conditions and completing an environmental review as required by CDBG and HUD regulations.

Barrier Removal:

The Town received \$23,400 in order to modify the elevator and two bathrooms in the Bangs Community Center, to make them usable by individuals of all abilities.

Mortgage Subsidy Program:

The Town was awarded \$150,000 to provide funding for an additional three low- and moderate-income households to participate in the mortgage buy-down program. These homes will also be permanently deed-restricted and therefore be affordable in perpetuity.

Childcare Tuition Assistance:

The Town received \$55,000 to continue to provide childcare subsidies for low-and moderate-income households with parents working or attending school.

The Community Services Department began implementation of this program during the fall of FY 07 by responding to a series of special conditions and completing an environmental review of each of the above activities.

Chestnut Ct. Kitchen Renovation:

As part of the Town's FY 05 Community Development Block Grant, the Town provided funding for the design phase of a renovation project of kitchens at Chestnut Court Apartments, a disabled and elderly housing development owned by the Amherst Housing Authority. During the fall of FY 07, the Town responded to a request for proposal from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development for funding to complete this renovation project.

During the fall of FY 08, the Department completed all the paperwork required to begin contracting for services for the renovation of the kitchens at Chestnut Ct. Apartments. The Town, during January of 2008, first signed a contract with the Amherst Housing Authority, which was required to develop bid specifications that complied with Chapter 149, the state's construction law, but also with all federal CDBG and HUD requirements. The Town was also responsible for relocating tenants while their kitchens were being renovated – this involved bidding and contracting with movers and packers, locating appropriate hotel space, contracting for food, cleaning of units after renovation and other miscellaneous services. The general bids were due on March 12, 2008 – the low bidder was Thayer Street Associates. As the project was ready to begin, it turned out that the cabinets that were ordered were not correct and therefore as of June 30, 2008 construction had not begun.

During the fall of FY 08 the Town was notified by DHCD that it will be designated a minientitlement community for 2 years after which the Department (DHCD) will reevaluate each community's status. The Town's FY 08 CDBG grant request included the following:

North Amherst School: \$480,143

The Town requested funding for building repair and improvements at the North Amherst School that will include re-pointing bricks, and fixing window trim, the front steps and all handicapped-accessible ramps.

Homeless Outreach: \$85,000

The Town requested funding to provide case management and outreach services for homeless individuals. The Town will contract with the Center for Human Development to provide services as specified in the grant agreement.

Childcare Tuition Assistance: \$75,000

The Town requested \$75,000 to continue to provide childcare subsidies for low-and moderate-income households with parents working or attending school.

HUMAN SERVICES

As part of its charge, the Community Development Committee reviews proposals for funding from human service agencies and makes funding recommendations to the Select Board, Finance Committee and Town Meeting.

Though the Community Development Committee continued to face difficult decisions, the Committee, along with the Select Board, Town Manager, and Finance Committee, all recommended that FY 09 funding be the same as that provided in FY 08. The Committee's priorities for funding continue to follow the guidelines established by the Select Board, namely: 1. emergency services: survival or critical; 2. preventive services; and 3. information and referral. Town Meeting voted the following:

Program Name	FY 09
Amherst Survival Center	\$19,000
Big Brother Big Sister	\$14,000
Family Outreach of Amherst	\$13,000
Not Bread Alone	\$ 6,000
Men's Resource Center	\$ 4,900
Center for New Americans	\$ 4,200
Service Interfaith Cot Program	\$ 4,900

HOUSING

Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee

The Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee's major responsibility is to increase the availability of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income Amherst individuals and families.

In 1989, the Town acquired a parcel of land, referred to as "Olympia Drive," mainly for open space preservation. Approximately six acres of this parcel were reserved for the development of affordable housing. A joint development plan with the University of Massachusetts had been under discussion; when the University made it known that they did not wish to proceed with a cooperative project, the Housing Partnership and Director of the Community Services Department began planning for the construction of affordable housing. During FY 07, it became apparent that since the University owns the road that provides frontage for the proposed development, the Town lacked the legal frontage necessary to comply with zoning regulations. A comprehensive permit would, however, permit a developer to proceed without regard to this legal requirement. During FY 08, the Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee voted to request CPA funding to pay for the expense of applying for a comprehensive permit. It was agreed that the Town would dispose of the property to a developer with a purchase and sale agreement with the purchase of the property contingent on the approval of this permit.

During FY 07 the Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee supported a request to the Community Preservation Act Committee for funding to support a mortgage subsidy program that would provide deferred loans to low- and moderate-income households to purchase homes in Amherst. During FY 08 the Housing Partnership learned that CPA regulations required properties to be deed restricted in perpetuity. A Town Meeting vote was required to change language to reflect CPA regulations. The Program now provides down-payment assistance, permanently reducing the cost of the home and therefore guaranteeing long-term affordability.

Committee on Homelessness

The Committee on Homelessness began meeting in FY 08. The Committee's major priorities are two: 1. to provide support for homeless individuals and 2, to increase housing options for homeless individuals. After discussion with the Select Board, Committee members agreed that a feasibility study would first be necessary to identify a series of alternative strategies that will be most effective in increasing housing options. At the very end of the fiscal year, it was determined that the Town's FY 08 CDBG grant will most likely have funds available to pay for this study.

Other Services

Requests for charitable funds continue to increase each year. The increased cost of rent, utilities, etc. makes it more difficult to serve all those in need.

The FY 07 Town Report was completed and copies distributed to the Select Board, the Finance Committee, the Town Manager, department heads, the School Department and the Jones Library. The editors of the Town Report thank members of the Information Technology Department for their help in printing the FY 07 Annual Town Report.

Roy Rosenblatt Director of Community Services

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

Synopsis

After a decade of planning work, our goal is finally in sight: In the past fiscal year, the Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) took the most important steps in the Master Planning process, turning our draft chapters over to the consultants, and in turn receiving a completed draft Master Plan from them.

Personnel Changes

The Committee continued to function smoothly and without interruption despite a number of significant changes in staffing and membership. At the consulting firm of ACP-Visioning & Planning, Ltd., Suzanne Nienhaber took over from Jennifer Lindbom at the New York office, working with Principal in Charge Jamie Greene (Columbus, OH) from the start of the fiscal year. Amherst Senior Planner Niels la Cour resigned in autumn of 2007 to take a position at the University. Planning Director Jonathan Tucker stepped in to take his place.

In the course of the year, a number of Committee members also left, and most slots were not filled with new members. At this late stage in the planning process, most would have lacked the necessary familiarity with the process and evolving text. The exception was Andrew Churchill, who assumed the School Committee seat formerly held by Alisa Brewer, vacant since April 2007. Cyrus Cox resigned de facto through extended absence. Carol Rothery formally resigned due to other commitments. Longtime member Alan Root announced his resignation from this and all other Town bodies, effective 1 January, as he devoted himself to other pursuits on the occasion of his eightieth birthday. We congratulate him and thank him for his service. Chair Eric Nakajima resigned at the end of summer 2007 when he took a new job in the Governor's office in Boston. Vice Chair Jim Wald thereupon stepped in to take his place. Cheryl Zoll (former Vice Chair, during FY 07) also stepped down as an at-large member, finding that her duties as Director of the Survival Center demanded all her time. We did not elect a new Vice Chair, leaving that office vacant. Finally, we note with deep sorrow the absence of Frank Wells, who passed away just before the end of fiscal year 2008. We will miss him greatly.

(Full membership records and related documents are available in the Planning Department Office.)

Major Accomplishments and Activities

(I refer you to last year's report for the details on the background and progress of the Master Plan.)

As FY 07 came to a close, our work groups, drawn from both the CPC and members of the community-at-large, completed their editing of draft strategies for each of the legally mandated substantive chapters of a Master Plan: Land Use, Housing, Economic Development, Natural and Cultural Resources, Open Space and Recreation, Services and Facilities, Transportation and Circulation.

Soon afterwards, we completed the scientific community survey, conducted by David Loomis of the University of Massachusetts. As a qualitative pendant to this quantitative instrument, we circulated a special detailed survey to each Town Meeting member.

The lead consultants, ACP, then set about comparing the draft strategies and survey results in order to fine-tune specifics and prepare the complete draft plan. Although the CPC suspended full-committee meetings for this brief transitional period, the work of CPC continued on a smaller scale: (1) The Chair and Vice Chair (Eric Nakajima and Jim Wald) continued to hold regular (generally weekly) conference calls with Senior Planner Niels la Cour and the consultants. (2) An Approval Process Subcommittee (Rob Crowner, Jim Oldham, Alan Root, Jim Wald; with Niels la Cour, staff) met to discuss steps to follow completion of the Plan.

In August, the consultants presented both the formal survey results and the complete draft Plan to the full CPC. We held one final and well-attended information session at the Bangs Center in early September, where we presented the gist of the Plan, orally and in writing, to the community. With this final piece of crucial public input at our disposal, we set about assessing the draft Master Plan. Throughout the autumn, task forces made up of CPC members went over one chapter each in painstaking detail, scrutinizing it for completeness, and periodically reporting back to the full committee. On 11 December, the full CPC unanimously approved the complete draft Master Plan and voted to turn it over - along with our recommendations for revisions - to the consultants.

ACP worked on the drafts in the early 2008, turning the completed Master Plan back to the Town on 11 March. We shared the new draft with the full CPC and then set about reviewing the Master Plan in detail again. This time, however, rather than creating a separate task force for each chapter, we authorized creation of a single subcommittee to review all chapters: the best way, to our mind, to ensure thoroughness and consistency. The members of the subcommittee were as follows: Jim Wald (CPC Chair), Aaron Hayden (CPC Secretary), Marilyn Blaustein, Andy Churchill, Rob Crowner, Jim Oldham, Claude Tellier, Molly Turner, and Walter Wolnik, joined by Senior Planner Jonathan Tucker (staff) - and, when their schedules permitted, Doug Kohl and Joanne Levinson.

Our aim was, first, to identify any gaps (which might become apparent only once we had the entire document in front of us,) and further, to strive for consistency and clarity of presentation. The consultants had accepted many of our revisions, but declined to act on some others, either because their judgment differed from ours or because they found it impractical to carry out the requested changes at this late stage in the process (their contract had formally expired in September, but at our request, they extended it several times without asking for additional remuneration). This method of review proved to be a salutary and effective one. The Subcommittee met weekly.

By the end of the spring, we had gone over more than two thirds of the Master Plan (portions of it several times) and could see that we were approaching the end of our work but would require some additional months to achieve closure (given that the summer, with the inevitable periodic absence of Subcommittee members, was upon us).

This being the case, we also determined that a few very specific tasks could remain to be completed even after the draft was in essence done:

1) Planning Department staff would need to review all facts and figures (particularly in "existing conditions" sections; see also below) for currency and, further, insert appropriate graphics and maps.

(2) Chapter 10, on "Implementation," contains a matrix of necessary actions. Although the tasks listed there will remain as they are, we chose to leave the entries for the responsible parties and target dates open for the time being. Rather than rushing to complete this section with unseemly haste at this late stage, we thought it most prudent to leave the decision to the Planning Board, which will officially accept the Plan and thereupon take charge of actual implementation.

Postscript and Prospects

Update:

Because the charge of the Committee was to run out at the end of this past fiscal year, I will take the liberty of including this addendum, which brings matters up to date. Given that we were close to concluding our work, the Select Board this summer authorized us to continue till completion with our original membership, regardless of the status of individual members on their respective home committees. We set ourselves the ultimate target of completion by 31 October, which is to say: just before elections and Fall Town Meeting. I am very pleased to report that we completed our formal work at a meeting on 9 September. Pending a few technical corrections and insertion of supporting material by Town Staff, we will be able to turn the Master Plan over to the Planning Board on deadline.

Issues:

Because this is the final formal report of the Comprehensive Planning Committee, this is also, as promised last year, the appropriate place to offer a few more general observations about the nature, strengths, and weaknesses of our process.

Quality of service by consultants

The single most glaring and consistent problem involved Stantec Consulting, which was supposed to have been responsible for assistance with select components such as Services and Facilities and Transportation and Circulation. Stantec failed to provide the complete services promised - and moreover, to respond to repeated calls for rectification. In particular, "existing conditions" sections of relevant chapters were incomplete or curiously skewed. As a result, Town Staff and members of the CPC task forces and Review Subcommittee this year found their work unnecessarily complicated, as they were forced either to work around lacunae or to seek out additional information on their own, in either case expending time that they did not have and should not have needed to waste.

Some CPC members felt that the presentation of the survey results by David Loomis lacked closure: that raw data were not fully and usefully put at the disposal of the Committee, or overall results, more generally, presented in the most effective and complete manner. The latter were moreover not shared with the CPC until the time that ACP was ready to make use of them. In fairness, however, the survey was distributed well behind schedule, the responsibility for which indisputably lies at CPC's door (more on related matters below).

Views on the performance of ACP (the lead consulting team) were more positive, but not unmixed. The firm came to us highly recommended, and known in particular for its public-input process, which was of course of paramount importance in Amherst. In the beginning, the communication between consultants and CPC could arguably have been smoother. In particular,

at the time of the initial citizens' gatherings, the consultants' instructions arrived on very short notice, and their explanation and application of the principles at times seemed somewhat mechanical. One occasionally had the feeling that Amherst was just a name inserted in a template.

That said, the amount and degree of cooperation steadily increased, and the consultants soon got a very accurate feel for Amherst, its values, and its modus operandi. Since becoming Vice Chair and Chair, I of course had the opportunity to interact more often and more closely with ACP. It was a pleasure to work with the consultants as we entered the most challenging phase of work. Their advice was sound, and their patience admirable.

CPC and Town staff and bodies

Patience was indeed a necessary virtue. The biggest disappointment that some of us felt was that this Plan could have been much more: something richer, more distinctive, and more creative, which made fuller use of the intellectual resources of the citizens and the tools at the disposal of the Planning Department. The biggest practical problem that we faced was that we were consistently behind schedule. These issues are intimately related. Several problems stand out.

(1) For several years, there was clearly a lack of complete trust and/or effective communication between the Select Board and CPC. In response, the Select Board, somewhat controversially, mandated a significant expansion of CPC membership in 2006. As we noted in last year's report, that presumed advantage clearly came at a price: New members, many unfamiliar with planning issues in general and this committee and its workings in particular, joined the CPC and needed to be brought up to speed just as the newly hired consultants were conducting the rampup to the public input process. Not coincidentally, as we also noted last year, the consultants' monthly status reports almost immediately began to contain "red flags" warning of missed deadlines.

Deadlines remained a problem, but in the past two years, thankfully, we have seen no further signs of discord between CPC and Select Board. Cooperation between the two bodies has grown steadily, and indeed, relations are cordial and productive.

(2) A related issue is a certain (some would say: pervasive) climate of distrust between many citizens, on the one hand, and Town staff and other professionals, on the other. Both the consultants and Town Staff occasionally expressed frustration, saying they felt they were not being allowed to use their training to the fullest. They felt constrained in their ability to make professional recommendations, and as a result, forced to confine their input to generic administrative tasks. Proposals that they made were sometimes not validated unless and until a committee member at-large had made the same point, often much later. To their mind, staff and consultants were not criticizing popular participation, as such, but rather, what they perceived as a reflexive and ultimately paralyzing suspicion of all forms of expertise and authority (under which rubric critics sometimes lumped Town employees, chairs of boards and commissions, and commercial interests). This was certainly one factor behind the departure of a senior member of the Planning Department in the middle of the Master Planning process. The other side of the coin is that some on CPC felt that consultants or members of Town staff were taking too direct and personal a hand in things, trying to impose their views or otherwise proceed too rapidly, and thus seeking to shove pre-cooked proposals down the throats of rank-and-file committee

members. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that the one tendency inadvertently reinforced the other.

(3) Finally, there is the seemingly changeless Amherst passion for deliberation, discussion - and inadvertently, but unavoidably: delay. To what extent the delays were a product of proverbially making the perfect the enemy of the good, or simply of a congenital inability to reach any decision and meet any deadline, is hard to say. Whatever the cause, the fact is indisputable.

All three factors caused us to fall and consistently remain behind schedule. In the abstract, this is not the worst thing in the world (acting precipitously on the basis of erroneous information or faulty logic or both, for example, might be). However, there was a concrete price to be paid.

The persistent slowness and failure to meet deadlines forced us constantly to scale back our ambitions: to focus on basic facts and policies, to deliberate at great length (at times: quibble) over fine points of wording rather than to reach for more adventurous proposals or a bold vision that we could support and convey with the latest technological and methodological tools at our disposal. Ironically, then, our incorrigible indecisiveness as well as skepticism regarding expertise arguably produced a more anodyne document that, although duly acknowledging and incorporating the mass of public input, actually looks and sounds much more like the generic product of a consulting firm. This is a result that we would do well to ponder.

Indecisiveness and endless deliberation, to be fair, are nothing new in Amherst. Perhaps they are indeed akin to a hereditary condition. As the *Amherst Bulletin* put it, quoting its predecessor more than a century ago:

Townspeople were so picky about building a Town Hall in 1889 that it prompted this observation in an 1890 edition of the former *Amherst Record*: 'We should bear in mind the fact that the architect of the Cathedral at Milan, backed by the wealth of the universe, could not have designed a village horse-shed that would meet with universal favor at the hands of the citizens of Amherst.'

A statement in the consultants' final letter is both diplomatic and damning:

With this final submission ACP is concluding its involvement in the Master Planning process . . . This is now your document, and it is up to the CPC, planning staff, and Planning Board to bring it to its final state and prepare it for adoption. We say this with full acknowledgement of the challenge that it implies for you given the general [level] of angst of your deliberations.

[....]

When we started this process we were under no illusion that working with you and your community would be an easy undertaking. Given the lack of a master plan for nearly 40 years as well as the 10 years it took to actually launch this planning process, we were certain this would be very challenging. In spite of this we were optimistic that you could come together to work on behalf of the best interests of the community. We believe that many of you have done so. And even though you may not have the "perfect plan" - one that you would have produced if you did it yourself - you do have a very solid and comprehensive policy guide for the Town. I will continue to hope that you can reach agreement on outstanding items (of both form and substance) and start to put the plan to use. Town residents deserve it.

On a final note, I want you to know this is not the typical way our processes proceed or conclude. We have worked in some very complicated communities with very pressing and complex issues. We have been able to consistently assist those communities get to were they both needed and wanted to get. I hope that we have been able to help the Town of Amherst. It is a terrific community and we wish you the best of luck.

To cite difficulties in the planning process is not to complain or level accusations, but simply to note the histories of problems with an eye to avoiding them in the future.

We could, like Northampton, have opted for a top-down, narrowly based process that more quickly and cheaply produced a leaner document - but it would not have been ours, that would not have been us. For us, maximum public participation and acceptance were the highest good. That by definition meant a slower, more deliberative and iterative process.

Clearly, there was a price to be paid for the slowness of our process (deliberate or unintentional,) though not necessarily one that we should reject out of hand. For example: Although the committee expansion, coupled with our general desire to discuss each issue until we had reached the maximum level of consensus, likewise slowed us down, they also purchased us political good will and public buy-in - without which no Master Plan, however excellent in the abstract, could ever be implemented here.

And implementation is the key word. If the implementation of the Master Plan is to be successful, if we are not to relive and replicate the travails of the lengthy planning process (for one thing, we cannot: by November 2009, we will need to revise our Phased Growth Bylaw; that is our juridical Sword of Damocles,) then we need to learn its essential lessons. Above all: The Master Plan (re)presents a common vision, and that presumes an attitude of public trust, political maturity, and basic civility. We need to assume - at least hypothetically or for the sake of argument, until proven otherwise - that our fellow citizens are no less civic-minded than we are, that they, too, have the best interests of the majority at heart. Common goals presuppose some ability to subordinate our individual interests to the common good, in a word: to listen and to compromise. The CPC listened intently to what the citizens were saying, and although we as individuals did not and will not necessarily agree on everything, we pulled together to produce this product, and we believe that it accurately reflects our shared aspirations.

I am optimistic that we have reached that point of maturity. To my mind, the planning process and resultant Master Plan have so far been an unqualified success. If anyone needs proof of the collegial interaction and coherence of purpose that we can achieve, s/he need look no further than the Review Subcommittee, which brought together CPC members with widely divergent views, expertise, and experience. Each one of them will stand behind the integrity of Master Plan as well as his or her own individual vision of Amherst's future.

Conclusion:

The Master Plan is our answer to a welcome but serious challenge: Amherst is a very desirable place in which to live - to work, to study, to raise a family, to retire. The challenge involves how we will act in the face of critical new demands on the resources that make that quality of life possible.

The challenge is to maintain our standards of living, and to guarantee the advantages that we have enjoyed to new residents displaying an ever greater diversity of age, ethnicity, and class, and then to generations beyond. In other words, the challenge is to harmonize desires, principles of social justice, and resources - to live up to our ideals while living within our means, financially and ecologically.

The key to the Master Plan is therefore a tripartite system of information, evaluation, and action. For decades, residents have affirmed their preference for the existing historical system of village centers linked by large swaths of open space. At the same time, we insist on excellent public services and want an Amherst with the feel of a small town but the cosmopolitan values of the big city. The Master Plan proposes that we inventory our resources and assess how they can be used in the most sustainable manner reconcilable with these goals.

If we begin by agreeing on which areas should be developed and which preserved, we can more usefully confine our debates to the smaller remainder.

A comprehensive overhaul of our development regulations, buttressed by Green Infrastructure, Climate Action, and Economic Development Plans will ensure that we put principles into practice. The heart of the Master Plan is thus the call for an ethic of sustainability in all Town policies and activities.

We have been delighted to see residents already increasingly making reference to the Master Plan—in newspaper columns and letters, at meetings of boards and committees, in the last election campaign, even in everyday conversation. This is as it should be: It is the product of the community's input, and it is the community's right to assert ownership of it.

In one sense, a Master Plan is much more like a constitution than a tax code. Although the Master Plan discusses many specifics of policy, its greatest value is as a point of reference. Rather than providing set answers, it highlights issues, identifies principles, and sets forth procedures for making difficult choices. We still may not agree on everything (this is Amherst, after all,) but we can now agree that debate will henceforth turn on the interpretation of this document. It is the foundation for civil conversation and sound policy.

We express our deepest thanks to all who made this process and result possible: the Town bodies that authorized the creation of a Master Plan, the staffers and committee members who worked on it (some for many years,) and all in the community who contributed their ideas. All, equally, will need to contribute to its ultimate success as we move from ideal to implementation.

Amherst has changed a great deal in the past 250 years. With the aid of the Master Plan, we can begin to face the unprecedented changes of the next quarter-millennium with confidence and common purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wald Chair, Comprehensive Planning Committee

AMHERST CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Fiscal Year 2008

The Amherst Conservation Commission was formed by a special act of the legislature and a vote of the Amherst Town Meeting and "is the official agency specifically charged with the protection of a community's natural resources." Our purpose is the "promotion and development of natural resources...and protection of watershed resources." In this capacity, the Conservation Commission advises other municipal officials and boards on conservation issues, manages town-owned land dedicated to conservation purposes, and has responsibility for administering the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Town Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Thus, the Conservation Commission has management, education and regulatory responsibilities in the Town of Amherst.

Current Conservation Commission members are Nicki Robb (chair), Liv Baker (vice-chair), John Gerber, Eleanor Manire-Gatti, Harvey Allen, Dan Kaplan, and Otto Stein. The Conservation Commission works in close partnership with Conservation Department staff.

The Conservation Commission meets bi-monthly to discuss conservation issues and hold public hearings on issues related to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Amherst Wetlands Protection Bylaw. In this capacity, we reviewed dozens of plans during the fiscal year from developers, individual homeowners, businesses, and public bodies for construction or other activities in the immediate vicinity of protected resource areas. Each new project of this sort requires a site visit and follow-up monitoring by either staff and/or Commission members. These public hearings allow continued development of Amherst's homes and businesses while protecting critical natural resources such as wetlands, ponds, and waterways. There has been a steady increase in the complexity and contentious nature of these hearings as Amherst becomes denser and building is proposed closer to vulnerable resource areas. Some activities in the proximity of protected resources result in violations and require immediate investigation and action, and often necessitate mitigation or restoration.

In FY 08 the Conservation Commission worked collaboratively on the following:

- Acquisition of Agricultural Preservation Restriction land in north and south Amherst
- Participation in development of the Master Plan
- Consultation with the Agricultural Commission, including their effort to pass a Right to Farm bylaw
- Support for the Hitchcock Center building project
- Town-wide discussions on Flood Protection zoning
- Many Open Space projects funded by the Community Preservation Act
- Support of the Public Shade Tree Committee
- Beaver management throughout town
- Continued development of the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2008

The Conservation Department oversees the management of over 2,000 acres of public conservation land and 80+ miles of public trails. In addition, the Department has assisted the Town in acquiring another 2,000 acres of Agricultural Preservation Restrictions, thus preserving farmland in perpetuity, and protected 150 acres that are currently in Conservation Restrictions. Other activities of the Department include: 1) trail maintenance, 2) invasive species awareness and control, 3) beaver habitat management on Town lands, 4) supervision of activities at Puffers Pond, 5) maintenance of natural resource signage, 6) encouragement of farming, 7) awareness and protection of endangered species, 8) encouragement of nature and outdoor education, 9) environmental protection, 10) coordination of conservation efforts with other departments and committees, and 11) coordination of conservation efforts with neighboring towns.

The Town of Amherst has demonstrated a long-term commitment to conservation issues related to sustaining farming, supporting wildlife habitat, and maintenance of natural areas. Without this support, neither the Conservation Department nor the Conservation Commission would be effective in the long run. Of particular concern to the Conservation Commission is the continued financial support of the Conservation Department authorized by Town Meeting each year. The Conservation Commission believes that the public investment in developing conservation resources over the past thirty years is worthy of continued support as these resources do so much to define the character of our town.

Each year the Conservation Department works collaboratively with citizens, Town departments, and numerous state agencies to protect and enhance the natural environment in Amherst. The Conservation Department is staffed by Conservation and Development Director David Ziomek, Wetlands Administrator Stephanie Ciccarello, Land Manager Douglas Hucheson, Assistant Land Manager David McKinnon, and Management Assistant Libby Lass.

The Conservation Department provides direct and indirect support and assistance to the following committees: 1) Conservation Commission, 2) Agricultural Commission, 3) Public Shade Tree Committee, 4) Energy Task Force, 5) Public Transportation & Bicycling Committee, 6) Planning Board, 7) Zoning Board of Appeals, 8) Norwottuck Rail Trail Advisory Committee, 9) Board of Health, 10) Leisure Services & Supplemental Education Commission, 11) Water Supply Protection Committee.

David Ziomek

AMHERST COUNCIL ON AGING

Fiscal Year 2008

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Departures

- Elsie Fetterman completed six years of service after volunteering for two terms 2002-2008.
- Thomas McAuley, who was appointed in July 2005, resigned just prior to his term ending because he moved to a retirement community in South Hadley.
- Janet Gorth, appointed in June 2007, resigned in March 2008, as she found that she was overextended between her personal and community volunteer responsibilities.
- Stephanie O'Keeffe had to resign from the COA when she was elected to the Select Board.

New Members

- Kathy Koplow, Property Manager of the Clark House, was appointed for a three-year term beginning July 2008.
- Juana Trujillo, Support Service Coordinator for the Amherst Housing Authority, was appointed for a three-year term beginning July 2008.
- Attorney Joan Golowich was first appointed March 31st to fill Janet Gorth's remaining term ending June 30th, 2008, and then reappointed to a full three-year term beginning July 2008.
- Retired Amherst College Physics Professor Joel Gordon was first appointed March 31st, 2008, to fill Tom McAuley's remaining term ending June 30th, 2008, and then reappointed to a full three-year term beginning July 2008.

FY 08 HIGHLIGHTS

- Lisa White, RN, BSN, was hired in August, 2007, as the Senior Health Services Director for the Senior Center. Funding for her position is primarily provided by a \$10,000 annual grant by community donors, Joseph and Dorothy Gavin. Additionally this year, two other grants were received to begin offering outreach nursing services: \$5,000 from Cooley Dickinson Hospital and \$1,625 from The Amherst Club.
- After years of planning by Attorney Deb Jankowski, the Amherst Finance Director, the Senior Center Director and COA members, a new fundraising 501C-3 corporation called "The Friends of the Amherst Senior Center" was formed. The process has included approval by the Attorney General and a Town Meeting vote to accept the about-to-be-dissolved 501C-3 "Senior Trust" monies and an immediate vote to allow the funds to be transferred into the new "Friends of the Amherst Senior Center" control. This solved a long-standing problem with the Senior Trust's organizational structure.
- COA member, Stephanie O'Keeffe, led the annual COA member & Senior Center staff retreat in October which looked at all Senior Center programs and services to see how they are funded, how much staff time they take and their impact on elders. A brainstorming session on enhancing resources followed.
- The Council on Aging celebrated the 40th Anniversary of its establishment by Town Meeting. The occasion was marked by a special social held December 14th at the Bangs Community Center.
- The Senior Center/COA held its annual Volunteer Recognition Social in June. FY 08 saw the largest number of volunteers ever: 301. The Eveline Sears Senior Activist Awards for this year went to **Jean Schoen**, who has delivered Meals on Wheels for 15 years, and **Thomas McAuley**, who has served in various capacities as a COA member 1987-1990 & 2005-2008,

as Senior Trust Treasurer 1987-1991, and as a volunteer host and Meals on Wheels program assistant 2005-2008.

FY 09 FUTURE PLANS

- The COA and Senior Center staff are planning a special banquet at the Bangs Community Center on Sunday, October 19th, 2008, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Senior Center. In addition, materials are currently being researched to create an historical booklet looking back at the last forty years and highlighting the Senior Center's current programs and services.
- A COA ad-hoc study group has been formed to begin preparation for a 2010 comprehensive survey of Amherst elders to better understand the issues they face and what they anticipate their needs to be. Similar surveys have been conducted by the COA every ten years since 1970.
- The spiraling cost of living for elders on fixed incomes challenges the capacity of the three Senior Center staff to provide adequate support services. Fundraising, grants and creative community partnerships are being explored to fill the gap created by dwindling Town funding.

AMHERST CULTURAL COUNCIL

Fiscal Year 2008

The Amherst Cultural Council has six members: Edith Byron (Chair), Ekaterina Ites (Treasurer), Ann Woodbridge, Hope Crolius, Anne Burton, and Laurie Nisonoff.

The Council received a total of 63 grant applications, of which 7 were PassGrants. 21 Local Cultural Council grant applications were denied and 35 LCC grants and 7 PassGrants were approved. The ACC received \$21,830 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Council decided to use an additional \$4,866 from accumulated interest and unused former grants. The total amount requested in the grant applications was \$45,543 (LCC) and \$4,266 (PassGrants). The total amount granted by the ACC was \$49,809.

The ACC held open meetings on Oct. 23, 30; Nov. 6, 20; and Dec. 4, 2007. Final votes were taken on Nov. 20, 2007.

Submitted by Edith Byron (Chair).

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

Fiscal Year 2008

The Design Review Board held 10 meetings during FY 08. This was the same number of meetings as in FY 07, but was down somewhat from previous years. This downturn was due to both a slow-down in the overall number of downtown private development projects being proposed and the fact that the Board was at low strength (2 or 3 members out of an intended total of five) throughout the fiscal year. At times the Board had difficulty in achieving a quorum.

Public Projects Reviewed

Pomeroy Village Streetscape – the Board continued its discussions and review of the intersection of Pomeroy Lane and Route 116. Board members met with representatives of the Public Transportation & Bicycle Committee to discuss the need for a manual control for the traffic lights and locations of curb cuts to facilitate pedestrian crossing at the intersection of the two roads. The Board also met with the Town Engineer for a presentation about the design plans that have been developed by the Department of Public Works to improve the roadway and sidewalks in the area. Board members will continue to meet and discuss these issues, and plan to hold a series of further public meetings to collect input from business owners and residents in the area regarding strategies for encouraging the intersection's development as a Village Center, for connecting it to the South Amherst Common and for improving the pedestrian experience both within the intersection and between the Village Center and the Common.

Downtown Streetscape Improvements (Ren's Mobil Station. to Carriage Shops and D'Angelo's Building to St. Brigid's Church) – The DRB reviewed and approved designs for streetscape improvements for these stretches of downtown sidewalk.

Atkins Corner Intersection Realignment – In a meeting with the Town Engineer, the DRB reviewed 25% designs for realigning the intersections of Bay Road and West Bay Road with West Street (Rte. 116).

250th Anniversary Committee – The Board reviewed a proposal for a public art installation at the former site of the Amherst Academy on Amity Street with members of the 250th Anniversary Committee. Board members recommended approval of the "spirit frame" and made further recommendations regarding its proposed location and immediate surroundings.

Design Review Overlay Districts – The Board discussed and advised on a proposal by the Planning Board to add Design Review (DR) and Town Common Design Review (TCDR) Overlay Districts to the Official Zoning Map. This proposal was later approved by Town Meeting.

Private (Downtown) Projects Reviewed

The redevelopment and improvement of downtown buildings and sites continued. The following projects and signs were reviewed in FY 08:

Projects – Amherst College's renovations and additions to Hitchcock House dormitory; La Piazza Ristorante's new awnings and seasonal outdoor dining area including outdoor furniture and fabric barriers

Signs – Blue Marble, Downtown Bank of America Building, Prep Cosmetics, Amherst Cinema Building sign plan, Mr. Chicken, Arigato Restaurant, Adventure In/Adventure Out, Mango Mango, Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, Unitarian Universalist Society, Survival Center.

The Board's strong recommendations regarding an initial sign proposal by the Bank of America resulted in an improved proposal for signs at this central and highly visible location in downtown Amherst.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Winston Design Review Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

The Finance Committee advises the Town on matters affecting Town finances and makes transfers from the Reserve Fund to cover extraordinary or unforeseen expenses. The primary focus of the Committee's responsibility and work consists of adopting guidelines for managing the Town's money and recommending a comprehensive budget consistent with those guidelines to Annual Town Meeting. The Committee also recommends a course of action for any articles having financial implications that come before any Annual or Special Town Meeting.

The Finance Committee's recommended budget guidelines are presented in the fall to the budget-making authorities to provide them with information on the level of resources that are expected to be available for spending on operating and capital budgets in the next fiscal year, as well as the need to link spending limits to the need to accumulate and maintain appropriate levels of reserves in the form of Free Cash and the Stabilization Fund. The guidelines are developed from the Finance Director's projections of revenues and spending for the previous, current and next three to five fiscal years. Changes to the guidelines sometimes occur as new information about funding sources and service needs becomes available during the budget process. Such changes might be to the amount of available resources and/or to the proportion of the total going to different sections of the overall Town operating budget: municipal services, elementary schools, regional schools and library services.

A Multi-year plan

The Committee remains convinced that the Town has a compelling need to develop a multi-year financial plan that addresses spending, revenue, and rebuilding reserves. The committee fully endorsed the efforts of the Budget Coordinating Group and the Facilitation of Community Choices Committee in engaging the public as part of the planning process.

Reserves

The Town had been spending reserves to support operating budgets, in declining amounts, from FY 02 through FY 08. Currently, reserves represent roughly 5% of operating revenues and 5% is simply not enough to maintain critical and desirable Town services during the next, inevitable, economic downturn that will likely result in reduced state aid for the Town. The Committee is convinced that the Town should move to proactively increase reserves to help mitigate program and service cuts that would otherwise be required.

Fiscal year 2009 guidelines

For FY 09, the committee initially recommended no spending of reserves, followed by several years of rebuilding them, and limiting FY 09 budget increases to 2% for the Municipal and Elementary School budgets, a 2% increase in tax support for the Library budget, and a 3% increase for the Regional Schools Assessment. As the budget process unfolded, it became clear that meeting the "no reserves" recommendation and the 2% guideline would require extremely deep cuts in the elementary schools, cuts that many deemed unwise given that a concerted effort was underway, through the Community Voices - Budget Choices public process, to develop a clear and supportable financial plan that addresses spending priorities and revenue generation preferences for the next five years. Within this context, the committee reluctantly agreed to the use of \$400,000 to support the FY 09 budget, and \$25,000 towards the 250th anniversary celebration of the incorporation of Amherst as a Town.

The use of reserves and additional revenue from an agreement with UMass and some surrounding towns for an increase in support for Ambulance Service, as well as a gift from Amherst College, allowed for the following Town Meeting-approved budget increases:

Elementary Schools 6.3% (includes a shift in transportation costs for

Elementary students from the Region to the Town)

Regional Schools Assessment 0.1% (reflecting transportation shift)

Municipal Budget 3.6% (2% tax support increase, remainder reflecting

additional new revenue)

Library Tax Support 2.0%.

Financial Policies

One of the major accomplishments for the year was the compilation of many of the financial policies and best practices the Town follows to manage its resources. Until now, many of these policies were understood but unwritten or written but scattered throughout various documents and in various locations. Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director John Musante articulated and compiled them into one document which the Finance Committee then edited and adopted, with input from the elected boards of the Town.

Fiscal year 2008 Reserve Fund transfers

The Reserve Fund is used by the Finance Committee to cover extraordinary or unforeseen expenses of the Town. An amount is appropriated at each Annual Town Meeting for this purpose. Most years, including FY 08, the appropriation has been \$100,000. When the Committee met on July 14, 2008, to make the necessary transfers from the Fund, \$99,065 was required, leaving \$935 unspent. That remainder closed to the Undesignated Fund Balance and became Free Cash. The Committee made one transfer of \$99,065 to Public Works to cover a deficit in the Snow and Ice budget.

Meetings

The Committee held 40 meetings during the year, 7 of them immediately prior to Town Meeting sessions; 1 of them a combined meeting with the Select Board, School Committee and Jones Library Trustees; 1 of them a combined meeting with the Select Board, and School Committee; 1 of them a combined meeting with the Amherst Select Board and representatives from the other three Regional School District towns (Pelham, Leverett, and Shutesbury); and 1 public hearing to solicit public opinion on the FY 09 budget guidelines issued in November of 2007.

Members of the Committee

Members who served diligently and with great thoughtfulness for the full fiscal year are Brian Morton (Chair), Kay Moran (Vice-Chair), Marilyn Blaustein, Alice Carlozzi, Douglas Slaughter and Andrew Steinberg. Paul Bobrowski resigned in February of 2008. The committee extended a heartfelt thank you to Alice Carlozzi upon her retirement from the committee after 15 years of service to the Town as a member and as a former chair of the Finance Committee.

Thanks.

This was another difficult year financially for the Town, and consequently the Committee required a great deal of staff support to gather information and to present it to Town Meeting. Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director John Musante, along with staff of the Finance Department, provided necessary information about the Town's financial history and current

situation. His knowledge about state technical requirements, policies and politics continued to be most helpful. Maria Racca, Financial Analyst, organized information for us and also produced our reports, usually under acute deadline pressure. We rely on assistance of the Town Manager's office staff to help organize our operation. The committee's review and evaluation of the various parts of the Town's budget depends on the assistance of the Town Manager, School Superintendent, Library Director and members of their staffs, along with department heads and other staff responsible for municipal services. Contributions of the Select Board, School Committee and Jones Library Trustees are essential to arriving at an acceptable budget to recommend to Town Meeting. We thank them all for their generous assistance.

We are committed to organizing and presenting financial information to Town Meeting members in order to assist them in carrying out their duty to determine spending policies and appropriate funding for Town, School, Library, and Capital needs of the Town. We appreciate the comments and guidance they give us, both as individual members and as a group, the appropriating authority of the Town.

Brian Morton, Chair

FINANCE DIRECTOR/TREASURER'S OFFICE

Fiscal Year 2008

As Finance Director/Treasurer, I am responsible for the coordination of all financial activities of the Town, managing and coordinating the activities of the Finance Department (Accounting, Assessing, Collections, Treasury), development of operating and capital budgets and appropriate budgetary controls, the disbursement, investment, and management of all funds belonging to the Town, and for effective financial planning and management of debt and debt policies. I also serve as the primary staff liaison to the Finance Committee, Joint Capital Planning Committee, and the Budget Coordinating Group.

Since FY 03, the Finance Department has reduced the number of full-time equivalent staff by 20%, from 16.31 to 13.00. This has been possible only through the Town's investment in new technology and the staff's ability and willingness to embrace technology to deliver better and more efficient service to the public. In FY 07, automated handheld parking ticket technology was deployed to parking enforcement officers, which provided the dual benefit of reducing the number of voided tickets from illegible script and the elimination of data entry of ticket data by collector's staff. Previously, the Collector's Office introduced on-line banking services and partnered with the IT and Fire Departments to streamline ambulance patient medical reporting and billing through deployment of laptop computers in ambulances. The Assessors increased online access to property information. It was necessary, however, to close the Central Services counter to the public on Thursday mornings beginning July 2007 following the most recent staff reduction to allow remaining staff to continue to complete billing and other critical reconciliations and back office functions in a timely manner.

I worked closely with the Finance Committee to draft the Town's first comprehensive set of written financial management policies and objectives, which were formally adopted by the Finance Committee in January 2008. http://www.amherstma.gov/financialpolicies The financial management policies and objectives set forth in the document are intended to increase and sustain the financial strength and stability of the Town of Amherst. They reflect a combination of policies and practices either required by state/federal statute or regulation, the Amherst Town Government Act, Town Bylaws, industry best practices, and local preferences. Articulation of these policies and objectives is essential to long-term financial planning that sets realistic boundaries on what the Town of Amherst can accomplish and helps direct resources to the highest priorities.

In November 2007, Town Manager Larry Shaffer appointed me to the new position of Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director. I am responsible for all of my previous duties as the Finance Director/Treasurer, along with taking on additional responsibilities associated with serving as Acting Town Manager in the absence of the Town Manager.

The Town's earnings on investments decreased as interest rates declined in FY 08, ranging from an average of 5.31% in July 2007 to 2.72% in June 2008. Certificate of Deposit (CD) rates decreased from 5.28% early in the year to as low as 2.85% by May 2008. Per Massachusetts general laws, municipalities are not allowed to invest funds for a period greater than one year. A total of \$739,224 was earned from investment interest, stock and mutual funds in FY 08, a decrease of \$61,718 from the prior fiscal year. The General Fund received \$431,421, the Enterprise Funds received \$182,807, the Community Preservation Fund received \$38,873, the Stabilization Fund received \$31,389, the Health Insurance Fund received \$20,214, the Worker's

Compensation Fund received \$16,695, the Trust Funds received \$13,848, and miscellaneous accounts (CDBG, Gift, Arts Lottery) received \$3,977.

There were two borrowings during FY 08. The Town issued \$855,000 in Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) on June 20, 2008 for construction of athletic fields at the Plum Brook Recreation Area (\$340,000) and for exterior improvements to Town Hall (\$515,000). The Plum Brook Recreation Area portion was a renewal (rollover) of debt principal remaining from the \$500,000 that was originally authorized by Town Meeting; \$160,000 of this debt has been retired over the past three years. Community Preservation Act funds are to finance two-thirds of the cost, with the remainder financed by taxation over ten years. The Town Hall debt issue was for \$515,000 in new borrowing, a portion of the \$575,000 authorized by Town Meeting in November 2007. The unissued portion of Town Hall debt will be issued later. The Note will mature on June 19, 2009. The Town received a favorable net interest rate of 2.34% via competitive bid. Also on June 20, 2008, the Town issued \$427,000 in State Aid Anticipation Notes (SAANs) for the Cushman Brook Corridor Project (Haskins View acquisition of 28.66 +/- acres for conservation and passive recreation purposes) in anticipation of a grant reimbursement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Self-Help Program. This project was authorized by Town Meeting in November 2007. The Note was dated June 20, 2008 and matured on August 19, 2008. The Town received a favorable net interest rate of 2.29% via competitive bid.

The Treasurer's Office manages the tax titles for the Town. When a taxpayer becomes delinquent in paying real estate taxes or other local charges that constitute liens on real estate, the Town has statutory authority to take title to the taxpayer's property and, subsequently, to undertake proceedings to foreclose on the property by petition to the Land Court. The property owner can redeem the property by paying the unpaid taxes, with interest and other charges. Twenty-five new properties were placed in tax title accounts during FY 08, totaling \$67,826. There were 19 properties removed from tax title accounts during the year. Payments totaled \$82,978. Additional interest collected totaled \$7,808. As of June 30, 2008, there were 54 parcels with a balance of \$265,669 outstanding. Tax possessions totaled \$68,288 on June 30, 2008.

Clause 41A allows income-eligible elderly homeowners to defer payment of their real estate taxes until the owner or his/her estate sells the home. This option is intended to help make it financially possible for qualifying citizens to continue living in their homes. The maximum allowed deferral of taxes equals one-half of the assessed value of the property. The interest rate on deferred tax is 4% until the property is sold or the eligible taxpayer is deceased. The interest rate then increases to 16% until payment is received. On the recommendation of staff, the 2006 Annual Town Meeting voted to accept a new provision in state law that allows the Town to reduce the rate of interest that accrues on property taxes deferred by eligible seniors under G.L. c. 59 §5, Clause 41A from 8% to 4%, with such reduced rate to apply to taxes assessed for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006. The number of taxpayers participating in this program increased to a total of ten compared to six the prior year. As of June 30, 2008, there were ten properties with deferred taxes, amounting to \$122,822. I believe that reducing the interest rate encouraged additional taxpayers to take advantage of the program.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge Assistant Collector Jennifer Loven, who earned her professional certification as a municipal collector from the Massachusetts Treasurers and Collectors Association in the fall of 2007. She is in her 10th year of service with the Town and is one of several "unsung heroes" in the Finance Department and throughout Town government service

who make local government "work" for the citizens of Amherst. I am reminded daily of the dedication and integrity that Town employees at all levels of the organization bring to their daily work serving the people of Amherst. Thank you to all.

Submitted by,

John P. Musante Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2008

In FY 08, as with every year in the past decade, emergency responses increased again this year, by 1.8%: EMS emergencies increased by 2% to 3,856 and fire calls increased by 1.1% to 1,366. This is the second year in a row that we have responded to more than 5,000 emergencies in a single year. There were no fire fatalities but 1 civilian and 39 firefighters were injured during these incidents. Our Fire Prevention effort continues to be stressed as the Fire Captain currently assigned here was out for medical reasons for 5 months and the Assistant Chief who supervises Fire Prevention programming also functions as the Town's Emergency Manager (Civil Defense Director) and was assigned to the Town Manager for four months in this capacity. Our activity in Fire Prevention increased again in FY 08, chiefly due to more oversight time required at construction projects on the three college campuses.

Throughout the decade, we have had three major concerns relative to our ability to deliver quality EMS and fire safety services to Amherst's citizens. First, the numbers of simultaneous emergency incidents that occur on a daily basis strip our on-duty forces to zero. In these circumstances, we need to rely upon off-duty career firefighters to respond back to the Central Fire Station during the normal workweek and then depend upon call and student volunteer firefighters to provide coverage nights and weekends and for all incidents whereby we have no apparatus to immediately send for simultaneous emergency calls. Such situations can only be solved by increasing the number of career firefighters on duty to a minimum of nine per shift. We continue to have the smallest career force in the state for our population range. The second major issue is the high injury rate to our firefighters – the highest in the state. This also relates to the call volume per firefighter ratio, also the highest in the state. Our final concern relates to response times of ambulances and fire apparatus to South Amherst. It exceeds the national standards for emergency medicine and fire suppression delivery, in some cases by up to twice the recommended time. This situation only can be rectified by adding a fire station in South Amherst.

We continued to receive benefits from a \$500,000 federal grant (SAFER) received in November, 2005, which added five (5) new firefighter/paramedic positions to our Department. This grant gradually requires Amherst to assume more of the salary burden over five years (this year the feds paid 75% of the salaries). In FY 08, we received another federal SAFER Act grant for \$181,000 for three years to assist in the recruitment and retention of call and volunteer firefighters. This grant partially pays for a career Fire Captain, reimburses the Town for emergency medical technician courses, fire science courses, provides some medical insurance coverage for call firefighters, provides for travel to the National Fire Academy in Maryland and assists with stationary firefighter recruiting modems at the colleges and at the High School.

In terms of personnel changes, Captain Roland Briere retired after serving with our Department since 1974. Firefighter/paramedic William Klaus was promoted to Captain. As a result of preparing for a Department-wide re-organization to address serious deficiencies in the Fire Prevention and Training programs, the Town Manager authorized that two additional promotions to Fire Captain be made. Firefighter/paramedic Paul Theilman and Firefighter/EMT-Intermediate John Ingram were promoted as a result of a competitive examination process. Firefighter/paramedic Casey Bergeron was hired to fill the vacancy created by the Briere retirement. We now have 31 paramedics on staff who continues to provide the premier Advanced Life Support service in Western Massachusetts.

Our SAFE (Student Awareness of Fire Education) program in the schools completed another successful year under the guidance of Captains Tim Goodhind and John Ingram. This program has been touted by the State Fire Marshal's Office as one of the best in the Commonwealth. Amherst Fire personnel continue to seek ways to improve it each year, such as the pancake breakfast initiated last year. In FY 07, we expanded our program to teach the elderly fall and fire prevention as well.

Captains McKay and Olmstead continued to coordinate the tactical paramedic team, which interfaces with Amherst, State and UMASS police at civil disobedience events where immediate medical assistance may be needed under less than ideal situations. This program has six firefighter/paramedics who are specially trained to render emergency medical care to police and citizens under fire. It was an outgrowth of the Columbine High School tragedy.

The Department's Technical Rescue Team, led by Captain Sterling and comprised of ten career firefighters, continues to improve their capabilities to handle confined space, high angle, collapse and other technical rescues each year. We have been attempting to secure structural collapse rescue equipment from federal and college sources for the past four years without success, so we are acquiring this equipment through the budget process in FY 09.

Assistant Chief Zlogar and firefighter/paramedic Shanley led the Department's wilderness search and rescue team.

The Town and the firefighter's union created an EMS Training Committee in FY 07, to assist our EMS program in terms of training, continuing education, and a quality assurance program for our paramedics and EMTs so that we continue to render excellence in medical care.

Also initiated contractually in FY 07 was the Department's Training Committee, comprised of career firefighters and chaired by Assistant Chief Stromgren. This Committee maps out Department fire and rescue training on a bi-annual basis. Career firefighters carry out much of it on shift between answering emergency calls. Call and student firefighters accomplish most of it during their weekly regularly-scheduled drills.

Captain Sell continues as a member of the County's child fire-setter invention group. Captain Johnson and firefighters Tebo and Gaughan comprise the Fire Department component of the Town's Fire Investigation Unit, along with a state police trooper and two Amherst police officers.

Firefighter/paramedic Martell took over the membership on TRIAD, from Captain Childs, to assist with installing signs for the "What's Your Number" project. Over 1,600 homes and businesses now have street number signs posted in front yards to allow police and fire personnel to find them quicker in an emergency.

Assistant Chief Zlogar is the Town's Emergency Manager (formerly Civil Defense Director). He is responsible for coordinating Homeland Security issues for the Town, and in FY 07, began a project directed by Town Manager Shaffer to update the Town's emergency plans.

Captain Theilman, firefighter Adair and firefighter/paramedics Dion and Szewczynski continue in their capacity as our mechanics, saving the Town thousands of dollars repairing our vehicle fleet, which numbers 25 vehicles and 6 specialty trailers.

Assistant Chief Zlogar, Captain Sell and firefighter/paramedics Roy, Martell and Bascomb are members of the state Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, quartered in Chicopee. This team responds to all hazardous materials emergencies in Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties with equipment provided by the Commonwealth.

Our call and student volunteer firefighters continue to function as a vital element of our Fire Department. We could not provide the level of emergency services for the Town without them, especially when all of our career on-duty members are committed to emergencies.

The citizen-based Fire Station Study Committee completed their work in FY 07. They recommended that a new sub-station be built in South Amherst to bring response times in line with the recommended national standards. As our 1928 Central Station has reached its useful life, they also recommended that it be replaced. The Joint Capital Planning Committee now will need to align these recommendations with other Town needs and with recommendations from the new Comprehensive Plan before moving back to Town Meeting.

The Hadley Route 9 re-construction project finally was completed during FY 08 and once again, we experienced minor delays in our ambulances traversing to and returning from the Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton.

Captain William Klaus continued to be assigned solely to fire prevention duties. At any given time, approximately 50 construction projects are ongoing which require Fire Department oversight for Fire and Building Code compliance. Even with his assistance, we continue to be overwhelmed in this area. There now is more coordination between Inspection Services and the Health Department with regard to plan review and inspections, with the hope of streamlining the process for businesses. The Town purchased a new software system that will allow the Fire, Health, Inspection Services, Planning and Public Works Departments to share information about projects instantly. This will result in more efficiency and better service to the public and businesses.

As a result of the tragic nightclub fire in Rhode Island in 2004, the Massachusetts legislature now requires fire sprinklers in all nightclubs, bars, dance halls and similar entertainment venues with occupancy of 100 or more. A total of 8 businesses had to sprinkler their properties and 4 reduced their occupancy levels through construction or variances to avoid the installation of sprinklers.

Amherst continues to have the smallest career firefighter contingent in the state for our population range (28,000-40,000) and is one of the busiest Departments in terms of emergency responses and fire prevention activities. Every year the workload increases with no sustentative increase in resources. The mental and physical stress this level of activity produces is chiefly reflected in our high injury rate. Statewide and national statistics suggest that we should have a minimum of 16 staff on duty, yet we have 7. The increasing number of simultaneous emergency calls is presenting a public safety crisis when we have few, if any, resources remaining to answer the next call. Town Manager Shaffer has been able to secure additional funding for fire/EMS services from the University, and is engaging Amherst College and Hampshire College officials

in meaningful talks surrounding a similar payment. We hope this leads to Amherst College and Hampshire College agreements in FY 09 so that Fire Department minimum staffing can be increased without relying upon Amherst taxpayers to do so.

Amherst's citizens need to be recognized for their continued fire-safe practices and for the cooperation we receive daily during emergencies and inspections. Amherst firefighters are to be congratulated for their dedication to duty, insuring the public safety each day, and maintaining their high standards to deliver quality emergency medical care to Hadley, Leverett, Pelham and Shutesbury as well as here in Amherst.

Reports on fire and inspection statistics, emergency medical services, Department training, and the Call and Student Forces follow. This material was authored by Assistant Chiefs Mike Zlogar and Lindsay Stromgren, Captain Tim Goodhind, and Call Deputy Chief Edward Mientka, Jr.

Respectfully submitted, Keith E. Hoyle, Fire Chief

6 YEAR STATISTICAL RECORD

	FY 08	FY 07	FY 06	FY 05	FY 04	FY 03
EMS RESPONSES	3,856	3,780	3,556	3,340	3,339	
FIRE RESPONSES	1,366	1,351	1,254	1,358	1,367	1292
TOTAL:	5,222	5,131	4,810	4,698	4,706	4592
FIRE PREVENTION	2,561	2,421	2,996	2,570	2,320	2005
FIRE LOSS IN \$	387,910	2,785,570	476,000	519,225	473,460	895000

FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

Engine 1: 2001 Emergency One 1500 gpm pumper Engine 2: 2003 Emergency One 1500 gpm pumper Engine 3: 1995 Central States 1500 gpm pumper

Engine 4: 1999 KME 1500 gpm pumper

Engine 5: 1990 Emergency One 1500 gpm pumper

Engine 6: 1976 Maxim 1000 gpm pumper

Ladder 1: 1988 LTI 105 foot aerial platform with 1250 gpm pump

Rescue 1: 2006 Emergency One Spartan heavy rescue

Rescue 2: 1994 GMC light-duty rescue

Tanker 1: 1972 Military 6wd 1300 gallon capacity

1997 Horton Ford ambulance A-11: 2007 Horton GMC ambulance A-12: A-13: 2003 Horton Navistar ambulance A-14: 2004 Horton Navistar ambulance A-15: 2001 Horton Navistar ambulance R-1: 1985 Navistar stake-body truck R-2: 2000 Ford F-350 4wd pick-up 1993 Chevrolet 4wd pick-up R-3:

R-4: 1984 Chevrolet Military 4wd brush truck

R-5: 1997 Dodge van

R-7: 1995 Ford Crown Victoria R-8: 2000 Ford Crown Victoria

X-1: 2007 Ford 500

X-2: 2005 Mercury Sable wagon
X-3: 2004 Mercury Marquis
X-6: 1998 Ford Explorer 4wd
Utility: 2001 John Deere ATV 4wd

Utility: 2003 Arctic Cat snowmobile (shares trailer with above)

Trailer: 1992 FEMA COMMANDPOST Trailer: 1997 Aerolite (SAFE program)

Trailer: 2003 state Mass Decontamination Unit

Trailer: 2004 state Mass Casualty Incident supply unit

Boat: 2004 Avon zodiac with trailer

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

EMS continues as the component that generates the majority of our emergency traffic, and again in FY 08, we increased our responses to 3,856 responses. With our new federal SAFER grant hires, we now have 31 career firefighter/paramedics, more than any other western Massachusetts Fire Department.

We continue to provide EMS to Hadley, Leverett, Pelham and Shutesbury, and these communities (along with UMASS) pay a per-resident fee to us for this service. Just under 28% of our total EMS activity goes to non-Amherst communities and the additional stipend charges to non-Amherst responses enacted in FY 06 continue to increase revenue collection in this regard. The Town Manager is aggressively pursuing additional revenue sources with regards to EMS charges.

Normally we can staff only 3 ambulances simultaneously. Only 36% of the time or less can we staff 4 ambulances with on-duty personnel. Nearly 40% of our total EMS calls required some sort of advanced life support (ALS) intervention. This is consistent with our experience since we expanded to ALS care over two decades ago.

Our fifth ambulance finally was equipped with ALS paramedic gear during the fiscal year. During the workweek, we now re-call career staff to back-fill the station when all on-duty staff is committed to emergencies, so the possibility of utilizing the fifth ambulance for ALS calls has increased.

Department EMTs, Intermediates and Paramedics train continuously during the year to maintain state certifications for the EMT level to which they are certified. Personnel take advantage of coursework sponsored within the Fire Department and from outside sources depending upon budgetary commitments. An EMS Training Committee was created by the bargaining agreement between Local 1764 IAFF and the Town and this Committee has been very active at establishing training plans and curriculums for skill and knowledge improvements. The Field Training Program for new paramedics, EMT-I's and EMT-Bs was re-written to provide for more directed training supervised by experienced paramedic mentors.

The Fire Department has been working with the Amherst Police and other area Police Departments to provide first aid and defibrillator training for area first responders. We also are providing this training in the schools and other Town Departments.

The Emergency Medical Service did not change significantly in FY 08. The number of calls showed increases similar to the past several years.

The fifth ambulance was equipped with supplies and equipment required for paramedic-level care. A change in the station coverage policy that calls career members to duty makes available paramedic staffing when the on-duty crews are committed to other emergency calls.

An EMS Training Committee was created. The committee meets monthly to plan training to address recertification requirements and skill and knowledge improvements. The field training program for new EMT at all levels was rewritten to provide more directed training supervised by experienced EMT-paramedic mentors.

We continue agreements with Greenfield Community College and Mercy Medical Center as a site for the students to complete the field skills portion of the paramedic training program.

New technologies & treatments are being considered for emergency medical services. As the equipment is acquired and EMT-paramedics trained, our ability to provide advanced-level care in the field will be improved.

The Fire Department is working with Amherst Police and other area Police Departments to provide first responder and defibrillator training for first responders. Firefighter/EMTs are providing CPR and defibrillator training for staff in the schools, Bangs Center, Town Hall and Conservation Departments. Training and support is provided to private organizations who are installing and maintaining public access defibrillators.

FY 08 EMS RESPONSES

Amherst:	2,000
Belchertown:	34
Hadley:	741
Leverett:	79
Pelham:	53
Shutesbury:	64
Sunderland:	85
Amherst College:	92
Hampshire College:	77
UMass:	626

Total Responses: 3,851

FIRE PREVENTION STATISTICS

Building Inspections	
Home Inspections (Chapter 148, s26F and new construction)	308
Multi-family dwellings (Chapter 148, s26C)	237
Construction Plan Reviews	
1 and 2 family residential	61
Commercial and multi-family	44
Amherst College	26
Hampshire College	10
University of Massachusetts	126
Fire Protection System installations and alterations	374
Site Plan Reviews (Planning Board)	47
Life Safety Inspections	
Restaurants	72
Nursing and Rest Homes	7
Health Care facilities	20
Inns and Theaters	26
Fraternity and Sorority	27
Public Schools	31
Private Schools	26
Childcare	14
Public Buildings	3
Elder Housing	18
Temporary use (Chapter 304)	10
Other buildings	3
Inspections and Permits	
Oil burner installations	135
LPG installations	59
UST removals	9
UST installations	0
AST installations	0
Tank truck inspections	2
Fireworks and pyrotechnic displays	3
Dumpster Permits	59
Total Open Burning Permits	735
Public Education Programs	
Open House	1
SAFE	53
Community Programs	7
CPR and defibrillators	8

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES* JULY 1, 2007 – JUNE 30, 2008

* Statistics include fire apparatus responses only. Ambulance calls are listed under the EMS section of the Fire Department report.

RESPONSES by CATEGORY

FIRES:	
Structure:	73
Vehicle:	10
Rubbish:	22
Brush:	13
Other:	27
Subtotal – Fires	
RESCUE: (includes vehicle accidents)	
HAZARDOUS CONDITION:	99
FALSE ALARMS:	
Malicious alarm:	43
System Malfunction:	
Unintentional:	
Good Intent Call:	41
Bomb Scare:	5
Other False alarms:	<u>10</u>
Subtotal – False Alarms	784
SERVICE CALL:	50
OTHER CALLS:	
TOTAL FY 08 FIRE RESPONSES:	1.366
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TYPE of A	<u>ALARMS</u>
STILL ALARMS:1,078	RESCUE/VEHICLE ACCIDENT:152
BOX ALARMS:47	OTHER:
RECALLS:1	Mutual Aid <u>TO</u> other communities:29
STATION COVERAGE*:156	Mutual Aid FROM other communities:0
*Station coverage does not include nightly cover	age by the Student Force during the academic
year.	

FIRE LOSSES & CASUALTIES

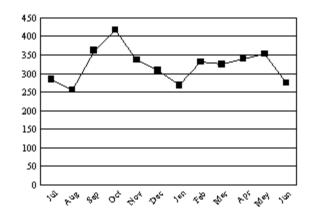
FIRE DOLLAR LOSSES: (includes co	ontents)
Buildings & other structures	\$366,500
Vehicles & other equipment	\$19,000
Other	\$2,419
TOTAL	\$387,910
CIVILIAN FIRE INJURIES	1
CIVILIAN FIRE FATALITIES	0
FIREFIGHTER INJURIES	2

By Town	Fire	%	EMS	%
Amherst	1337	97.9	2795	72.5
Belchertown	4	.3	34	.9
Hadley	8	.6	741	19.2
Leverett	1	.1	79	2.0
Northampton	9	.7	0	.0
Other	4	.3	5	.1
Pelham	2	.1	53	1.4
Shutesbury	0	.0	64	1.7
Sunderland	1	.1	85	2.2
TOTALS	1366		3856	

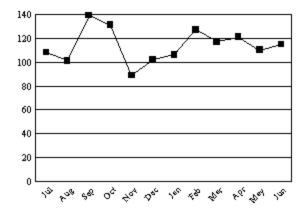
By Month	Fire	%	EMS	%
Jul	108	7.9	284	7.4
Aug	101	7.4	256	6.6
Sep	139	10.2	362	9.4
Oct	131	9.6	417	10.8
Nov	89	6.5	337	8.7
Dec	102	7.5	308	8.0
Jan	106	7.8	268	7.0
Feb	127	9.3	331	8.6
Mar	117	8.6	325	8.4
Apr	121	8.9	340	8.8
May	110	8.1	353	9.2
Jun	115	8.4	275	7.1
TOTALS	1366		3856	

These are the totals for Amherst with the colleges removed.				
	Fire	EMS		
Amherst (only)	927	2000		
Amherst College	75	92		
Hampshire College	136	77		
UMASS	199	626		

EMS calls only (by month)



Fire incidents only (by month)



FIRE TRAINING

During FY 08 members of all three forces (Permanent, Call & Student) were again able to take advantage of course offerings from both the Massachusetts and National Fire Academies. Seventeen department members traveled to the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland in September for a weekend of training on a variety of subjects. A number of members attended classes sponsored by the Massachusetts Fire Academy, both at their Stow, Massachusetts training facility and at regional offerings in local communities.

The Call and Student firefighters continued with their weekly drills throughout the year, covering a wide variety of basic firefighting and specialized topics. Eighteen new student firefighters along with fifteen returning student firefighters completed the annual week of basic training in August. The week included two trips to the Springfield Fire Academy for live fire training.

As in past years, members of our specialized rescue teams also conducted their own drills throughout the year, including the quarterly, day-long drills for the Technical Rescue team.

All members of the department participated in training on specialized topics including vehicle extrication training at a local salvage yard and familiarization training at the new UMass power plant as it was being built.

A new program was implemented in January by the fire training committee for the full-time Permanent Force members. This program consists of a two-year rotating schedule. The program was designed to assure that certain basic firefighting and rescue skills are reviewed at least once every two years. The schedule is divided up into monthly topics for each group to complete. The goal was to adopt a schedule that could be realistically met by the on-duty firefighters given their high volume of emergency calls.

Another project, electronic training reports, which was recommended by the training committee last year, was developed this year and was implemented on July 1st 2008. This new database method of tracking training for all department members replaces outdated paper training reports. The database enables the department to better track the number of training hours each member receives throughout the year as well as track which topics are covered. This training database will be used to track both fire and EMS related training. The database method of documenting training also brings us more into compliance with NFPA recommendations for firefighter training.

During the upcoming year, we will continue to conduct monthly on-duty training, as well as conduct training on new equipment and procedures. Upcoming specialized topics for training will include further training at the UMass power plant as it becomes operational, training for firefighter rescue, and training on new radio equipment and "Mayday" procedures.

AMHERST FIRE DEPARTMENT Call Force

Fiscal Year 2008

As a branch of Amherst Fire Department that serves to augment the department's Career Force, the Call Force may be called in to respond to an immediate fire emergency or called to the station when full-time career resources are committed to fire or emergency medical calls. By assignment, the Call Force operates a 1988 LTI 105' aerial platform (Ladder 1), and a 1999 KME pumper (Engine 4). Call Force personnel were dispatched for service 151 times throughout FY 2008. These included 47 box alarms and 21 other calls which included fire alarm activations, motor vehicle accidents, and first responder service to emergency medical incidents. In addition, the Call Force was called into the station 73 times to provide fire suppression coverage for the town. While in service, the Call Force was dispatched to 14 emergency calls.

This was another busy year for mutual aid requests. Call Force mutual aid responses included a Sunderland barn fire, a condominium complex fire in East Longmeadow, delivery of the Mass Decontamination Unit to South Hadley, two structure fires in Northampton, the Parson's Paper Company mill fire in Holyoke and a house fire in Leverett.

The Call Force is authorized to have 21 members. With the departures of Call Lt. Marc Liberatore, and firefighters Kate Kelly and Andrew Welch, a hiring process was required and conducted. Allison Laverty, Randy Lisle, and Abdullah Nizamani were hired and entered our recruit training program. With a return of Michelle Choquette and acquisition of former student force firefighters Dane Scantling and Dan Masloski, our roster was filled. At the close of the fiscal year our roster had 10 Massachusetts Certified Emergency Medical Technicians, 10 qualified pump operators, and 9 qualified operators of our aerial platform. We were pleased to announce the promotions of Sam Broder and Dave Pollack to the rank of Lieutenant.

The Call Force maintains a high level of training through regular weekly drills, Massachusetts Firefighting Academy training, National Firefighting Academy courses, EMT continuing education units, first responder and other specialized training programs. Other initiatives included providing a recruit training program, a pump operator course, and aerial platform training. Lt. Broder served as an instructor for the intensive annual Student Force Training Week.

Call Force members were proud to again assist with the Department's annual National Fire Prevention Week Open House, the annual Student Awareness for Fire Safety Education (SAFE) graduation, as well as providing fire protection during the 4th of July and Winterfest fireworks displays. A crew was selected to provide a demonstration setup and operation of the Mass Decon Unit at a county fire service class in Belchertown. Other services included staffing for snow emergencies, conducting open burning inspections, and permit processing. Call firefighters appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve the Town of Amherst.

Respectfully submitted

Edward J. Mientka Jr, Deputy Chief Amherst Fire Dept. Call Force

STUDENT VOLUNTEER FORCE

Thirty student volunteer firefighters, mostly from UMass, continued to augment our career and call firefighters. During FY 08, 9 students lived at the North Fire Station, and the students had their pumper in-service at the station 113 hours a week (Monday-Friday: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. - Fridays at 6:00 p.m. continuously until Mondays at 7:00 a.m.). The remainder of the week, they are on-call similar to our call and off-duty career firefighters.

The students responded to 189 fire runs during FY 08, down 15% from last year. Their training is similar to that of our call firefighters. On daily shifts, training occurs for 90 minutes, with the entire student contingent training every Thursday night for 3 hours. We do not expect that they will function at the same level as our career professionals (as they are not paramedics and most are not EMTs, they cannot staff an ambulance), but they perform a critical ancillary service and sometimes arrive first at emergency calls, including fires, as occurred a handful of times during the year. In these instances, it is important that they carry out their duties and control the incident until other help can arrive. Consistently they have performed well for us.

Student firefighters staff one pumper and during actual fires, also respond with a squad truck and extra self-contained breathing apparatus, spare air cylinders and firefighter rehabilitation supplies. They maintain our Command Board (accounts for locations of firefighters inside buildings) and usually bring an ambulance and a squad to the scene with extra personnel as well.

Student firefighters also attended other training facilities besides the instruction received here. Some of those sites were the State Firefighting Academy in Stow, the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and the Springfield Fire Department Training Center.

In April, 21 new student firefighters began training to replace graduating seniors for FY 08. We should start FY 09 with somewhere around 36 students, but certainly will lose some to attrition, as we always do. Whatever prompts some students to elect to try to perform this public service often is tempered during the 72 hour "Wonder Week" training that occurs one week before the college semester begins in September. Usually some new students decide not to continue in the program and drop out during "Wonder Week" or choose not to return at all.

Most remain with us, and some do go on to choose the fire service as their profession, as evidenced by the 13 former graduates alone who now are career firefighters in Amherst as well as current Massachusetts Fire Chiefs in Athol, Westborough and Amherst (all three career chief officers in Amherst are student force graduates).

The \$1000 award is made by the family of Randy Silveira, a 1981 graduate of the Student Force who exemplified character, caring and commitment to the student firefighters and the Town. Randy died in 2003 from cancer and the memorial was established in his honor to reward the student firefighter who best emulated Randy's dedication to the student firefighters.

We look forward to another successful year with our student volunteer firefighters as they have provided to the Town every year since the program's inception in 1953. Without them, and our call firefighters, the Amherst Fire Department could not provide prompt fire and EMS coverage to our citizens.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT & BOARD OF HEALTH

Fiscal Year 2008

The mission of the Amherst Board of Health, working through the Health Department, is to promote the health and wellbeing of our community with special emphasis on eliminating health disparities. We fulfill this mission through our core functions: assessment, assurance, promotion, and policy development.

Assurance: ensuring that all Amherst residents have the services necessary to maintain or restore good health either by coordinating the delivery of services by other agencies, by policy or regulation development, or by providing services directly.

Assessment: systematically collecting, assembling, analyzing, and making available information regarding the health of the community, including statistics on health status, community health needs, and epidemiological studies of health problems.

Promotion: providing services and educational opportunities that encourage healthy environments and healthy lifestyles.

Policy Development: development and implementation of comprehensive public health policies, regulations and legislation.

The work of the Amherst Health Department is organized into six major areas: Access to Health Care, Infectious Disease Control, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Environmental Health, Health Policy and Planning Emergency Preparedness.

I. Access to Health Care

Ensuring access to health care for all Amherst residents continues to be a priority for the Department. Two of the Departmental programs to address these concerns are: Hampshire Health Connect and "Peace in the Family: a Khmer Community Project". We continue to look for resources to expand our services to other newcomer populations.

Hampshire Health Connect

Hampshire Health Connect (HHC) is a nonprofit organization created by a group of citizens, providers and representatives of local government, businesses, and the insurers. Its aim is to link families and individuals who are underinsured or who have no health insurance with insurance programs that they may be eligible for or to medical providers willing to see HHC patients at no charge or on a sliding fee scale. HHC is housed in Cooley Dickinson Hospital. The Health Director, Epi Bodhi, is currently secretary of the Board of Directors of HHC.

Thanks to several grants, HHC was able to engage the services of a Latina caseworker, who has been working out of the Amherst Health Department to enroll all Amherst residents, but especially those whose first language is Spanish, in the program. As a result of this, Amherst residents' participation in HHC as well as the number of Latino clients served by HHC continues to rise.

In the past year, 287Amherst families were served.

The enactment of Health Care Reform has had a great impact on the work of Hampshire Health Connect. Many who believed they were ineligible for state benefits are now seeking the help of HHC to enroll in the Commonwealth Care Programs.

Cambodian Health

The Cambodian outreach worker position was funded this past fiscal year through a combination of town funds and grants received from organizations wanting to support this work. The outreach worker continues to provide services and advocate for the Cambodian community.

The Outreach Worker, Lauren Srey continues to work with Khmer Health Advocates to provide Diabetes Education and training to the Cambodian community in this area. She also advocates for individuals needing support services in cases of mental health, abuse, sexual violence and other forms of neglect. She promotes self-help, self-education and awareness. She has also worked with many of the elders to help them become United States citizens.

Lauren Srey helps residents for a variety of reasons. Here are some of them:

- 38 Citizen Immigration Issues
- 200 Medical Assistance
- 28 Home Visits
- 15 Employment Assistance
- 67 Housing Issues
- 18 Court Issues
- 2 Mediation Assistance Cases in local schools.

368 total visited by clients 72 Individual clients serve

Convalescent Equipment Lending Program

Designated Health Department Staff maintain a loan closet for citizens in need by loaning equipment, handling returns, and receiving equipment donations. Convalescent equipment includes walkers, commodes, shower chairs, tub transfer benches, tub safety rails, canes, crutches, dressing sticks, bedrails, and a limited number of wheelchairs. During FY 08 approximately 74 Amherst residents borrowed 116 pieces of equipment; returned approximately 22 pieces, and donated some pieces of convalescent equipment. The need for lending equipment has increased significantly. Requests for equipment have exceeded the actual availability of equipment.

II. Infectious Disease Control

Controlling the spread of communicable diseases and food-borne illnesses is an important function of the Health Department.

<u>Infectious Disease Surveillance and Control during FY 08 included the following:</u>

- 2 cases of active Tuberculosis
- 3 cases of Tb prevention and control
- 10,718 doses of vaccine distributed to eleven Amherst providers
- Annual Senior Flu Clinic, in conjunction with the Council on Aging, provided vaccines for Flu, Pneumonia and Tetanus to 275 residents
- Flu Clinic for 86 town employees
- Monthly immunization clinics provided 195 immunizations to 22 adults and 95 children
- 6 cases of Campylobacter, 5 cases of Giardia, 1 case of Group A Strep, 1 case of Group B Strep, 1 case of Hepatitis B, 15 cases of Lyme Disease, 6 cases of Pertussis, 1 case of Shigellosis, 1 case of Strep Pneumonia.

III. Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Programs aimed at promoting health and preventing disease are another important aspect of the Health Department's work. Programs and interventions are either for the general public or are targeted to certain groups that are at increased health risk because of their membership in a particular demographic group, or as consequences of their own behavior or the behavior of others.

High risk groups

- The Public Health Nurse has worked with the Survival Center to promote wellness and to link Center users with health care resources.
- The Public Health Nurse collaborates with local partners to explore the development of a Medical Clinic for the underserved and to hold Health Fairs for special populations
- The Public Health Nurse in conjunction with Easthampton, South Hadley and Northampton, is part of a workforce team developing a Municipal Wellness Program for town employees
- The Health Director and Public Health Nurse work with the Council on Aging to ensure that seniors are offered high-quality nursing services.
- Town of Amherst Handicapped Permits are available to residents of Amherst who
 have a temporary or chronic condition that substantially limits their mobility.
 This permit allows residents to park in handicapped spaces within the Town of
 Amherst. This permit WILL NOT extend any privileges beyond Town limits, or
 to the area colleges. A permit may be obtained from the Amherst Health
 Department. A doctor's certificate stating the condition and the expected duration
 of the disability is required.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Education

The Health Director continues to be active in several Town, University, and School efforts to examine alcohol abuse, underage drinking, and substance abuse. The Amherst Board of Health received a grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) in 1999 to help address this problem of substance abuse in the High School. We continue to participate in SPIFFY (Strategic Planning Initiative For Families and Youth) and the Campus and Community Coalition to Reduce High Risk Drinking and are working towards combining efforts. In the last months of FY 08, Amherst joined forces with these two organizations and four other Hampshire County Towns to apply for a grant enabling us to continue working on this issue.

Health Equity

The Amherst Health Department was one of four communities chosen nationwide to receive the Social Justice Grant from the Kellogg Foundation to address the social determinants of health disparities. The Amherst Health Department widened its focus and structurally designed The Amherst Social Justice Health Project to include representation from the entire municipality of the Amherst Town Government. Our rational for structuring our project in this manner, was to create an environment throughout the municipality that would stimulate dialogue and foster the awareness of personal views regarding race, gender, and socioeconomic status. Our immediate goal in the first phase of this project is to move beyond the awareness and recognition of our personal views and to look at how these views influence the way in which we perform our jobs, individually and collectively as a municipality, and how we, ultimately as a municipality, affect the lives of the residents that we serve as a result of our views regarding race, gender, and socioeconomic status.

To gain a multiple awareness of how our residents are affected by the way the Town of Amherst conducts its business, we structured the dialogues in the following manner: Phase I—Eight dialogue sessions with one representative from each department. The exception being, that of the Health Department, which chose to include its entire staff; Phase II—two dialogue sessions with Town Department Heads to be conducted in the next fiscal year: the first with the Town Manager, Department Heads, Health Director, Social Justice Facilitator, Social Justice Grant Coordinator, and the second with Department Heads and the Social Justice Dialogue team. These sessions will include, but not be limited to, discussing the implementation of the recommendations made by the department representatives (i.e. shifting how we do our work by incorporating what we have learned); Phase III—a town viewing of Unnatural Causes with a facilitated panel discussion, and a series of dialogue sessions with various communities within the Town of Amherst. These dialogue sessions are to gain a perspective on how the Town of Amherst conducts business with individuals within various communities of the Town.

To date, we have completed seven of eight dialogue sessions in the first phase of our project.

Activities to date

- 1. Hiring Dialogue Facilitator
- 2. Hiring Project Assistant/Health Educator to manage details of the project
- 3. Discussion of the nature, outline, and design of the project
- 4. Meeting with Town Manager to secure support to make the project town wide
- 5. Meeting with all Department Heads to secure Department Representatives
- 6. Selection of Department Representatives for dialogue sessions
- 7. Scheduling of dialogue sessions with Department Representatives
- 8. Curriculum development for dialogue sessions
- 9. Start of dialogue sessions
- 10. Data collection—(ex: participant assessments)
- 11. Planning and of Department Head sessions
- 12. Planning for Community Dialogue sessions.

The Health Director and Health Educator are in communication with the other grantees. We share our experiences and brainstorm ways to move this national program forward in each of our localities.

IV. Environmental Issues

The Board of Health is required by state statute to perform many pertinent duties relating to the protection of public health, disease control and to advocate sanitary living conditions.

The Board of Health's Environmental Health Division staff consists of 2 Inspectors. Their responsibility is to regulate the laws. This fiscal year our department experienced a loss of work hours due to a loss of our Administrative Assistant and Senior Sanitarian. With minimal staffing, the department made every effort to fulfill the required inspections. Ellen Bokina, DC, MPH, RS joined the Health Department staff on January 2, 2008 as the new Sanitarian/ Environmental Health Coordinator. We conducted 825 inspections and issued 342 Town permits.

Food Safety

The Environmental Health Division inspected 238 food handlers during the FY 08. We administer licenses and permits for all food handlers encompassing: restaurants, recreational camps, bed and breakfast operations, residential kitchens, college institutions, hotels, motels, retail food stores, schools, mobile food units, temporary events, caterers, bakeries, and frozen food establishments.

Routine inspections and the perseverance of this division is a crucial role to protect the public health's welfare. The division enforces Chapter X of the State Sanitary Code: Minimum Standard for Food Establishments, 105 CMR 590.000. These state laws allow the Town of Amherst to conduct inspections, issue orders and suspend or revoke licenses and permits where necessary.

Since the state's adoption of the 1999 Federal Food Code, the Environmental Health Division collaborated with local restaurants to be in compliance with new regulations. The code requires all restaurants to have a person in charge (PIC) who has knowledge of food-borne disease prevention and application of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) principles. We will continue to monitor food managers to ensure the obtainment of their Food Manager Certification and to develop a food protection program.

Body Art Establishments

There are three Body Art Establishments and 11 licensed practitioners in Amherst. The Inspectors were able to conduct 6 inspections.

Massage Therapy & Tanning

Under authority of Section 31 of Chapter 111 and Sections 51 and 53, Chapter 140 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Health Department issued a total of 18 licenses to massage therapist, massage establishments and tanning operations. Unfortunately, due to the lack of staff, inspections were limited. As of January 1, 2008, Massage Therapy Licensure was taken over by the Commonwealth under the Division of Professional Licensure.

Swimming Pools

No person shall operate or maintain any swimming, wading or special purpose pool without obtaining a license from the Health Department. The permit shall be subject to the requirements of 105 CMR 435.00 and to any regulations as may be adopted by the Board of Health, provided, however, that said local board of health regulations shall not be applicable to a state owned or operated swimming, wading or special purpose pool. The Health Department issued 18 swimming pool permits, including 2 residential swimming pools.

Recreational Camps

We continue to perform extensive monitoring and inspections to sustain quality and assurance of compliance. This fiscal year there were 22 recreational camps.

Camp operators can request CORIs and SORIs online. The turnaround time for such a request is estimated to be 4-5 business days. We recommended that all camp operators use the online feature. Because of this, some camps that had fallen behind on criminal and sexual history requests were able to get results in time for their scheduled inspection.

Throughout the year we receive new information from the Community Sanitation Program. The Department makes every effort to forward the new material and information to all of our camp operators in a timely manner. Although, the Environmental Health Division continues to distribute informational packets; these packets are now made available online.

Housing

The Health Department upholds all nuisance and housing complaints. Chapter II of the State Sanitary Code: Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation, M.G.L. c.111, ss. 127A and 127B: 105 CMR 410.000, upon request or upon the Department's initiative the Health Department can certify violations, issue orders, hold hearings, grant variances and institute court proceedings; if necessary to enforce such orders. This fiscal year our Housing Inspector conducted 117 inspections including fraternities, sororities and voucher program related issues.

M.G.L. c.111, s.122, allows the Health Department to investigate nuisances which in the board's opinion may be injurious to the public health. The Health Department may destroy, prevent or remove such nuisances and make regulations relative. There were 140 nuisance inspections mostly involving trash. All nuisance complaints were addressed and abated.

Subdivisions

The BOH has 45 days to review and approve or disapprove preliminary and definitive plans for the subdivision of land, M.G.L. c.41, and ss.81S-81V. Failure to act is deemed an approval. The Health Department considers drainage, water pollution, sewage and potential damage to well fields.

Septic System

The Amherst Health Department enforces the State 310 CMR 15.000, Environmental Code, Title 5: Standard requirements for the siting, construction, inspection, upgrade, expansion of on-site sewage treatment, for the transport and disposal of septage. This fiscal year our Health Inspectors conducted 16 percolation tests and 8 septic system plan reviews and finals.

Septage and Garbage

The Health Department enforces Title V of the State Environmental Code; Minimum Requirements for the Subsurface Disposal of Sewage, 310 CMR 15.00. This year we issued 9 septage hauler and 5 installer licenses for the removal or transportation of garbage and offal this fiscal year.

V. Emergency Preparedness

The Health Department continues to develop a volunteer medical provider pool through the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program. There are currently 30 health care providers on the Amherst MRC roster and 45 volunteers overall. The group is trained in the National Incident Management System (NIMS), Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) operations, Shelter Operations, and other public health emergency and disaster preparedness-related topics.

This past spring, the Amherst MRC took an active role in an emergency shelter setup for Northampton fire victims. The Red Cross/MRC fire shelter volunteers worked along with the Salvation Army to provide meals for fire shelter victims. Volunteers assisted in serving meals, talking with victims who had psychological needs, and keeping general order. The Amherst MRC also took part in a telephone/email communication drill in which all Hampshire County MRCs had a role. Since the fall of 2004, the Amherst MRC has held monthly training sessions and has participated in a variety of ongoing public health outreach and education projects. Projects this year included the Relay For Life of Hampshire County, The Big E, "In case of emergency—ICE" campaign, and the Emergency Preparedness Community Campaign.

The Health Department staff is involved in several local preparedness organizations such as the Hampshire Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition, the Metropolitan Medical Response System, and Five College Public Safety Emergency Preparedness.

VI. Health Policy and Planning

The Board of Health is responsible for setting policies and creating regulations to protect the health of Amherst residents. Board of Health members are: David Alhfeld, Nancy Gilbert, Ellen Pile, Sandra Sulsky (Chair), and Alan Weiner. Under Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.), state and local regulations, Boards of Health have a broad range of responsibilities for making and enforcing policies that promote and protect the health of citizens.

The Board must conduct an in depth analysis of the many issues that comes before it. This year issues have included the development of regulations for the use of outdoor wood boilers; standards for the quality of private drinking wells, including an inspection protocol and schedule to maintain water quality; and regulations for businesses employing potential biological hazards, including rDNA technology. Other issues managed by the Board included senior nursing services, body arts, including tattooing and piercing, and exposures to tobacco smoke in private residences.

The Health Director is an active member of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Social Justice Strategic Direction Team of NACCHO (National Association of County and City Health Officials.). Because of her active participation in NACCHO, Amherst is often able to avail itself of national resources not often used by smaller jurisdictions such as ours. We have been eligible to receive special funds and technical expertise.

The Health Department works with agencies in public health as well as human services throughout the County to ensure that all residents have access to needed services and, as such, is an active member of the Strategic Planning Initiative for Families and Youth (SPIFFY) as well as the Healthy Communities Committee of Cooley Dickenson Hospital. The Health Director was asked to represent the Massachusetts Public Health Association as a participant in the Coalition for Local Public Health, a statewide coalition made up of representatives of the five statewide organizations that advocate for local public health. The Coalition works with state officials to ensure that Massachusetts residents receive the best public health services available.

FY 08 Board of Health

David Ahlfeld Nancy Gilbert Ellen Leahy-Pile Sandra Sulsky (Chair) Alan Weiner, MD Epi Bodhi, Health Director

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fiscal Year 2008

<u>Membership</u>

James Wald (Chair and representative to Comprehensive Planning Committee)
Lynda Faye (Vice Chair and representative to Design Review Board)
Gai Carpenter (Secretary)
Louis Greenbaum (representative to Community Preservation Act Committee)
Lyle Denit (representative to 250th Anniversary Committee)
Michael Hanke
Elizabeth Sharpe

Jonathan Tucker, Staff Liaison

We note with sorrow the recent passing of two former members, who served the Commission and the community in many ways:

Paul Norton: author of *Amherst: A Guide to its Architecture* (Amherst Historical Society, 1975) and the *Guide to the Dickinson Historic District* (Amherst Historical Commission, 2005)

and Caroline Olson.

Synopsis

Although, in this past fiscal year, we dealt with our usual share of demolition delays, consultations on design changes, and the like (all of which are documented in our minutes and the records of the Planning Department), the most significant achievement was the start of a fundamental reappraisal and reorientation of our action items - the most radical overhauling of our agenda that has taken place in the past five years, and one that will shape our policy in the years to come.

Major Accomplishments and Activities

This year, we proposed and succeeded in obtaining CPA funding for several key initiatives: a grant to the Amherst Woman's Club (Leonard Hills Mansion) for restoration of a carriage house; continuing work on conservation of Town documents; and, most controversially, purchase of two frontage lots on Main Street, in front of the former Henry Hills Mansion, next to the Woman's Club (see below).

We moved from planning to action on several of our long-term agenda items. We received and approved the East Village Historical Study, produced by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission with CPA funds (originally FY 05). In particular, we tackled some of the central goals in the restoration of the 1730 West Cemetery: We hired a firm to begin the delicate work of headstone restoration on the oldest portion of the site (\$150,000 in CPA funds from FY 05). Streetscape improvement by the Department of Public Works has at last reached the northern end of East Pleasant Street, which will allow renovation of the entrance to the Cemetery as well as

installation of new signs and lighting for the adjacent Amherst History Mural to go forward (originally from FY 05). We are also in the process of developing a request for proposals for production of new historic site and wayfinding signs (originally FY 05).

In addition, we collaborated with the citizen-advocacy group Preserve UMass (PUMA) in an attempt to stop the destruction of buildings and other historic resources on the University of Massachusetts-Amherst campus. It was in fact the thoroughness of State register listings based on data that the Commission had compiled in recent decades that allowed PUMA to bring successful action against the University of Massachusetts and University of Massachusetts Building Authority. The Massachusetts Historical Commission granted the Amherst Historical Commission standing to participate, along with other interested preservation organizations, in the negotiation of a binding Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on future policies toward historic resources on the Amherst campus.

The above are significant accomplishments, but our duties and ambitions are considerable, and we find that we are in many cases fulfilling them later than we would prefer.

Policy Reappraisal

The guiding document for the Amherst Historical Commission is the *Amherst Preservation Plan* of 2005 (http://www.amherstma.gov/index.asp?NID=765), developed with Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds following the success of our *West Cemetery Preservation Plan* (1999). It divides undertakings into physical preservation, documentation, regulation, and outreach and advocacy, which are further distributed over a ten-year schedule, divided into near-term, mid-term, and long-term goals.

One of the first consequences of the *Plan* was our creation of a rolling five-year schedule of proposed undertakings and expenditures under the CPA, subdivided into: Capital Projects, Interpretation/Outreach (e.g. signs), Research and Planning (e.g. Historic Register nominations), and an Annual Set-Aside (e.g. for preservation restrictions or archaeological surveys at construction sites and the like). The model in many ways served us well, paying for, notably, restoration work in the West Cemetery and conservation and digitization of Town records held in Town Hall and the Jones Library, to cite but two examples.

However two factors forced us to revisit and reconsider our overall policy. One was contingent, and one structural, but they are in fact closely related. The contingent factor was a string of unanticipated and urgent preservation challenges entailing use of CPA funds (virtually our only source of monies for projects, the occasional grant excepted). The structural factor was a system entirely dependent on the volunteer labor of citizen commissioners and the professional services of Town staff already stretched to their capacity (a situation exacerbated this fiscal year by vacancies in the Planning Department). Because the emergency cases allowed for no delay, they served to highlight the cracks and strains in the "normal" system.

In 2005-6, we scrambled to save the Federal-era Benjamin Kimball farmhouse at 575 North East Street from demolition, which triggered not only considerable ongoing expenditures but also protracted - indeed, tortuous - negotiations between multiple Town offices and commissions, on the one hand, and the Commonwealth, on the other, over mitigation and compensation for the necessary trade-off of land under Agricultural Preservation Restriction. In fall of 2007, we

acceded to the Town Manager's request to support by vote and with our CPA funds, repairs to the exterior of Town Hall and debt service on the restoration of Town Hall exterior masonry.

In early 2008, we launched a struggle to save two Main Street lots in front of the Henry Hills mansion (former Boys' and Girls' Club) from development. The division of the latter parcel into building lots threatens to destroy part of a rare contiguous nineteenth-century urban landscape that is moreover one anchor or gateway of the Dickinson National Historic Register District, our premier concentration of historic resources, crucial to the character of our community. We proposed that the Town acquire the parcels in order to create a historic landscape park. This was the first occasion on which the Commission advocated outright purchase of a property, simply because there were no alternatives. As in the case of the Kimball farm, though for different reasons, even our solution to the problem was severely hampered by legal restrictions: In this case, the developers were asking more for the lots than their appraised value, which is the legal maximum that the Town can pay. We therefore had to assemble a multi-step proposal, entailing allocation of CPA funds contingent on receipt of a State grant with a tight application deadline, and ultimately, on private fundraising efforts (in which we are not legally allowed to take part) to generate the \$90,000 in bridging funds between the appraised and putative market prices. (The results of the grant application will not be available until around mid-October, and even assuming that it is successful - as we have every reason to believe- we do not know how long the developers will wait before they feel the need to put the lots on the market to recoup their investment. We anticipate, however, that the window would not close before the end of the calendar year.)

All these cases required considerable capital expenditures outside the mandate of the *Preservation Plan* - which our established policy strongly discourages: They consume an inordinate share of financial resources - in the case of the Kimball House and Town Hall, not just for the fiscal year in question, but for several years out. For each of three years in a row, the need to respond to an emergency that monopolized both CPA funds and the time of commissioners and staff has played havoc with our ability to act on the carefully calibrated schedule of projects that the *Plan* sets forth.

If there is a silver lining to this cloudy picture, it is that the string of emergencies forced us to examine our regular projects in a new light. After rigorous comparison of our history of proposals and our actions, we reached the sobering but unavoidable conclusion that, under the constraints of time and money within which we had to work, our existing model was unsustainable in the long run. Even assuming that no such similar large-scale emergencies arise in the next few years, we would be hard-pressed to accomplish all that we hoped. We faced the choice between persisting in a neat but unrealistic program that looked excellent on paper and had produced notable accomplishments but fell further behind schedule every year, and crafting a new one that achieved steady and predictable results. We opted for the latter.

All of our goals were worthy and mandated by the *Preservation Plan*, but they were, after all, an ideal or a wish list: many proved to be infeasible at the moment or inadequately prioritized, or both. We therefore began a period of reappraisal that will extend into the new fiscal year, and should be completed by Spring Town meeting, when the next round of CPA articles will come to a vote.

We discussed in some detail the time factor and considered various ways to obtain the additional project oversight and assistance that we believe we need. No matter how productive and

dedicated the commissioners, we are dependent on the expertise and authority of professional Town staff. One of the prime challenges for the work of the Commission is the need for most projects - especially capital projects - to negotiate the bottlenecks of the bureaucracy. (The West Cemetery improvements - for which CPA funds were allocated in FY 05, but which are being completed only now - are "Exhibit A.") Any undertaking requiring the collaboration of other departments or the satisfaction of Town-wide design or quality standards necessarily takes more time for planning and execution. Any major undertaking involving the services of outside contractors requires the preparation of a professionally rigorous request for proposals, followed by competitive bidding, both of which, again, take additional time. The solution seems to lie in the careful choice of the new Associate Planner to be hired in the fall. If, as seems likely, that position is defined so as to include support for the work of the Commission, then we will stand a much better chance of making more effective use of our respective time and expertise. A more careful division of labor, including the enhancement of standing subcommittees and the creation of new ad hoc ones, should follow.

Future

Our provisional goals for the coming fiscal year are all derived from the "Immediate Preservation Efforts (One to Three Years)" called for in the *Preservation Plan* of 2005:

- First and foremost, complete the process of creating local historic districts (a distinct category under Massachusetts General Law), which offer the strongest form of protection for historic structures and landscapes. Indeed, had such legislation been in place in the appropriate parts of town, we could have avoided several of the recent emergencies that have so consumed our time and resources. Although this was the number-one regulatory goal of the *Preservation Plan* ("Establish a Historic Overlay District"), the Commission never took any concrete steps toward its realization. This June, we arranged a joint meeting of the Amherst and Pelham Historical Commissions, at which a representative of the Massachusetts Historical Commission explained the complex process, which we plan to launch in the fall.
- Complete work on West Cemetery restoration and improvements. To date, we have tackled infrastructure and interpretation, but not yet the long list of landscape restoration measures.
- "Play a leading role in the 250th Anniversary of the Town." In addition to collaborating with the Anniversary Committee, History Museum, Chamber of Commerce, and other organizations on special events, we hope to link our most prominent preservation activities to the celebration.
- "Develop, install, and maintain a system of signs and street furnishings to mark historic districts and village centers, and to encourage tourism." This is part of a multi-pronged effort to develop an aesthetically unified complex of wayfinding and interpretive signs. It can also be linked to the longer-term goal of creating a historic plaque program, whereby property owners could purchase commemorative markers for their buildings, the fees for which would help to support a revolving fund to provide grants and loans for local preservation projects.
- "Create a web page linked to the Town's website" to make available historic resources as well as information on programs and other events. This dovetails with the priority task of updating our inventories of historic structures and landscapes. The redesign of the Town of Amherst web

site (scheduled to go online shortly after the transition to the new fiscal year) provides the perfect opportunity.

• An additional goal that has arisen outside the parameters of the *Plan* is to ensure the proper conservation, and if possible, public display of the G.A.R. tablets (1893) honoring our Civil War Veterans, in time for the 250th anniversary celebrations.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wald Chair, Amherst Historical Commission

ANNUAL REPORT MARCH 31, 2008

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY 33 KELLOGG AVENUE AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Jean Haggerty, Chair Peter Jessop, Vice- Chair Steve Rogers, Treasurer Judy Brooks, Assistant Treasurer Joan Logan, Member

Donna Crabtree, Executive Director

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY 33 KELLOGG AVENUE AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS 01002

ANNUAL REPORT AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Amherst Housing Authority respectfully submits its Annual Report to the citizens of the Town of Amherst, Ms. Tina Brooks, Undersecretary of the state Department of Housing and Community Development, the Secretary's Representative of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and State Auditor Joseph DeNucci for the year ending March 31, 2008.

The members and staff of the Amherst Housing Authority reaffirm their continued desire to serve all the citizens of Amherst, including those who reside in the several buildings that the Authority owns and also AHA tenants who reside in privately owned buildings in the Town of Amherst.

Sincerely,

Jean Haggerty Chair

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The voters of the Town of Amherst elect four members of the Board at large and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts appoints one member. All members serve five-year terms. The members establish policies regulating the operation of the Amherst Housing Authority. Regular Board meetings are held on the fourth Monday in the community room at Ann Whalen Apartments.

Members of the Amherst Housing Authority Board of Commissioners are:

CommissionerTerm ExpirationJudy BrooksApril 2010Steve RogersApril 2007, hold over memberJoan Ross LoganApril 2012Peter JessopApril 2009Jean HaggertyApril 2011

Joan Logan was re-elected to the Board at the annual Town election held in April 2007. Judy Brooks and Steve Rogers continue to serve as the Authority's members on the non profit corporation Board, Amherst Affordable Housing Associates, Inc. Peter Jessop is the Authority's appointee to the Town's Community Preservation Act committee.

At their annual meeting in April, Jean Haggerty was elected Chair, Peter Jessop Vice Chair, Steve Rogers Treasurer, and Judy Brooks Assistant Treasurer.

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY HIGHLIGHTS

In June 2007, the Authority approved a 99 year ground lease with Valley Main Street, LLC for the property located on Main Street for the purpose of constructing 11 units of affordable rental housing. Valley Main Street, LLC (comprised of Valley Community Development Corporation and Amherst Affordable Housing Associates) selected Teagno Construction Company to construct the development. The project should be completed by September 2008.

The Authority signed a contract with the Town of Amherst for a Housing Development Support Grant program. Funding will be used to alter the kitchens/electrical systems at Chestnut Court Apartments. Chestnut Court currently has the original kitchens that were constructed in 1962. The Authority anticipates that this project will begin in June 2008.

On July 17, 2007, the Authority obtained permanent financing from the Massachusetts Housing Partnership for the units developed on Tamarack Drive and the units renovated at 99 Bridge Street.

The AHA signed a contract with Langone Utility and Pipeline to upgrade the sewer lift station at John C. Nutting Apartments.

The AHA received a capital grant award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$24,633 for improvements at Watson Farms

Apartments. In addition, the Authority signed contracts with the state Department of Housing and Community Development for three additional projects: planning for roof replacement (current roofs are 25 years or older) at Ann Whalen Apartments, Chestnut Court Apartments, Stanley Street, and John C. Nutting Apartments in the amount of \$75,000, rehabilitation of a handicapped accessable unit at Ann Whalen Apartments in the amount of \$50,000, and \$75,000 for rehabilitating a family housing unit on Jenks Street.

The Housing Authority completed its Annual Agency Plan for 2008 with the assistance of a Resident Advisory Committee. The plan includes a mission statement, goals and objectives, and numerous policies and budgets. It is available for public review in the Authority offices, in the Planning Dept. at Town Hall, and in the Jones Library. The Agency Plan was submitted to the U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for approval.

In March, Ms. Eva Schiffer deeded her home at 27 Kendrick Place to the Amherst Housing Authority. Ms. Schiffer will retain use of her home for the rest of her life. The Housing Authority will then sell the property to a municipal employee whose household income qualifies him or her for the home. The property will remain permanently "affordable for municipal employees".

The AHA continues to improve its existing management, maintenance, and rental assistance programs and to emphasize preventative maintenance.

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

In addition to the actual day-to-day management, maintenance, and administration of the Authority's programs, the AHA staff provides information to the general public and to local and state agencies and boards.

Administrative Personnel

Executive Director

Housing Manager

Director of Leased Housing

Office Manager

Program Specialist

Bookkeeper

Housing Clerk

Donna Crabtree

Nancy Schroeder

Debbie Turgeon

Pam Predmore

Dianne Chamberlain

Lowell LaPorte

Angela Russell

Maintenance Personnel

Maintenance Supervisor/Mechanic Jerry Aldrich
Maintenance Laborer John Summers
Groundskeeper/Custodian Dana Glazier

Contract or Grant-Funded Staff

Support Service Coordinator

Fee Accountant

Counsel-State Programs

Juana Trujillo

Gary DePace

Patricia LaFore, Esq.

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY HOUSING

NAME OF	# OF UNITS	FUNDING	BUILDING	DATE OF
BUILDING		TYPE	NUMBER	OCCUPANCY
ELDERLY/				
<u>HANDICAPPED</u>				
Chestnut	30	State	667-1	1962
Court Apts.				
Ann Whalen	80	State	667-2	1975
Apts.				
Jean Elder	23	State-	667-3	1980
House		Private		
<u>FAMILY</u>				
Watson Farms	15	Federal	085-1	1982
Apts.				
Stanley St.	2	State	705-2	1988
Jenks St.	4	State	705-3	1989
Olympia Drive	4	State	705-1	1992
Fairfield St.	6	State	705-1	1992
Bridge St./	6	State	705-1	1992
Market Hill				
99 Bridge Street	4	Private	Section 8	2003
			vouchers	
Tamarack Drive	4	Private	Section 8	2006
			vouchers	
HANDICAPPED				
John C. Nutting	5	State	689-1	1981
Moreau House	8	State	698-2	1990

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS UNDER CONTRACT

NAME OF PROGRAM	UNITS	TYPE
Section 8 Rental	413	Federal
Mass. Voucher Program	10	State

Maintenance/Capital Improvements

The maintenance staff prepared 22 vacancies for occupancy and completed 686 work orders. The staff also maintains the grounds and buildings at the Authority's thirteen properties.

The Authority completed the following capital improvement projects- rehabilitation of basement and repaving of sidewalks/driveway at 99 Bridge Street, drainage upgrades at Chestnut Court Apartments.

Management

The Authority maintained 6 waiting lists and processed 532 new applications during the year. AHA staff processed 184 income recertifications, signed leases with 22 new households residing in AHA-owned property, and conducted 165 unit inspections.

Two new policies were approved by the Board of Commissioners; Violence Against Women Act policy and a Biennial Recertification policy for the 667 state-funded developments.

The Authority, as a member of Power Options Consortium, signed a three year contract for electricity with Direct Energy Services, LLC.

Rental Assistance Programs

The AHA administers three rental assistance programs: the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD, the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) and the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP,) both funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Both programs permit eligible households to occupy privately-owned units. The Authority pays part of the monthly rent directly to the owner. Over 120 local owners participate in the programs. The Authority received authorization for 4 additional vouchers under the MRVP Program from the Department of Housing and Community Development.

AHA staff issued 43 Section 8 Housing Choice vouchers, completed 776 income recertifications and leased 35 new families on the program. The Authority also issued 5 MRVP vouchers and completed 5 MRVP and AHVP income recertifications.

448 housing inspections were completed during the year. These inspections included annual, move-in, and special inspections of units leased through the Section 8 and conventional housing programs.

The Authority completed a market rental survey which was submitted to HUD; based on the survey, the AHA received permission for an increase in the Fair Market Rents levels for the Section 8 Program.

Resident Services

The Support Service Program, through its Coordinator, arranges for counseling, individual assessments, support, and crisis intervention to elderly/handicapped residents. The program also provides a number of educational forums for residents.

Ann Whalen Tenant Organization expanded its Wellness Program and received permission to use a vacant apartment for resident activities related to this program. The program is administered in collaboration with the nursing department at the University of Massachusetts. The Organization also continued a program that provides a healthy breakfast for residents of Ann Whalen. Two Ann Whalen residents, Jean Haggerty and Clemencia Robles are now involved with the Senior Community Services Program and provide a wide variety of services and educational programs to tenants.

In February, the Authority sponsored a luncheon in appreciation of residents who volunteer their time at the Authority's office or developments.

A number of tenants at Chestnut Court and Ann Whalen Apartments are very active in gardening. They have provided many hours of labor enhancing the landscape with flowers and shrubs at both developments.

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP/ FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

The Housing Partnership/ Fair Housing Committee has continued to be involved in many aspects of affordable housing both in Amherst and in the wider area. Two members were involved in the working groups that comprised the Pioneer Valley initiative to end homelessness in our area within ten years. The completed plan entitled All Roads Lead to Home advocates for a "Housing First" approach. One of the strategies outlined in the study which impacts the committee's and Town's efforts is to increase the housing stock available for people at or below 30% of the area medium income, a scarce commodity in Amherst.

Members of the Partnership attended a variety of meetings and conferences including an all day meeting that focused on use of Community Preservation Act money in developing affordable housing. These meetings provided an opportunity for members to become acquainted with Partnership members from other towns. The result was a lively meeting with members from Northampton, which we hosted in the Ann Whalen Community Room. Our discussion of common interests and challenges as well as our different outcomes and approaches led us to commit to another joint meeting.

Much of our attention this year was aimed at the goal of establishing a Municipal Affordable Housing Trust for Amherst. The goal we have set after many hours of research and discussion is to present a warrant article to the Fall Town Meeting. We have met with Shirin Everett from Kopelman and Paige to increase our awareness and to answer our questions and concerns about a Municipal Affordable Housing Trust. Town Manager, Larry Shaffer has been very supportive of our effort. We met with business people to encourage their support and we will have a public meeting in late September.

Our other main objective is to see the development of homes on the land on Olympia Drive. The committee was able to define what kind of housing we would like to see and a Request for Proposals is being finalized by Shirin Everett to reflect those preferences. A public meeting will be held for the RFP also in late September. A major stumbling block continues to be access by road to the property on Olympia Drive.

We have continued to meet with developers who are building or who are interested in building affordable housing and to be aware of property that could be potential opportunities for construction of affordable housing.

Sadly this year we lost a valuable member, Frank Wells, who was committed to providing affordable housing to everyone.

HUMAN RESOURCES/HUMAN RIGHTS

2008 Annual Report

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Human Resources Department (HRD) provides a variety of services to Town employees to ensure that the needs of the Town are met by responding to staffing needs and managing the hiring process through recruitment, advertisement, and administering exams as needed. The HRD communicated to employees through the annual open enrollment process benefit programs and policies. The HRD also manages the Workers Compensation Benefit Program and assists the different departments with assessing Human Resources needs. During FY 08 HRD participated in the Collective Bargaining Process and Contract Management for union employees, and assisted the departments with implementing collective bargaining agreements, and assured compliance with all federal and state labor laws.

The HRD meets with the Personnel Board on a monthly basis and collaborates on issues regarding personnel policies and procedures to assure equitable treatment of employees by supporting the different departments with the administration of policies and procedures as they relate to Human Resources.

PERSONNEL BOARD

The Personnel Board consists of five members; each member serves a three-year term. No person employed by the Town or holds an official position in Town government, except Town Meeting members, shall be appointed to the Personnel Board. Four members of the Personnel Board are appointed by the Select Board; for one member, the Select Board shall receive a nomination for appointment from the employees. One member of the Personnel Board is appointed by the Library trustees. All members must be residents of Amherst.

At the present time there are two vacancies, the Library Trustee's vacancy, and the employee representative. This past year there was an attempt to fill the employee vacancy. Two Citizen Activity Forms (CAF) were received for the vacancy. The Personnel Board met with the non-union staff twice this fiscal year.

RECRUITMENT & ADVERTISEMENT

Recruitment and Advertisement is done through newspapers, and website postings. The advertisement is done with: The Daily Hampshire Gazette, The Amherst Bulletin, The Sentinel, The Republican/Union News, Brattleboro Reformer, and The Keene Sentinel. Other forms of advertisement are with the Amherst Survival Center, Career Options Resource Center – Hampshire College, Career Point, CCACTV, Elms College, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Center, Riverside Industries, Skills Career Education Center, UMass Career Services, and the University without Walls. There were a total of 18 advertisements for FY 08.

NEW HIRES

There were 17 new hires during FY 08: 2 internal, 2 Police Patrol Officers, 3 Parking Enforcement Officers, 4 Emergency Dispatchers, 1 Sanitarian, 1 Associate Planner, 2 Library personnel, 1 Council on Aging Outreach Worker, and 1 Social Justice Program Coordinator.

RETIREMENT, RESIGNATION, TRANSFER, & TERMINATION

During FY 08, 3 employees retired, and HRD received a total of 15 resignations, 2 transferred, and 1 termination.

YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNIZED

- 2-30 Years
- 4-25 Years
- 9-20 Years
- 5 15 Years
- 3-10 Years

In FY 08, the Town employed 300+ employees including part-time non-benefited and summer help, 70 of whom are non-union fully benefited employees.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

There are 28 staff, of whom 20 are females and 8 are males.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Employs 142 staff

Fire Department

Has 69 employees: 14 Administrative staff, 32 Firefighters, 5 Call Force Administrators, and 18 Call Firefighter, of whom there are 6 females and 63 males.

Police Department

Has 56 employees: 8 Administrators, 4 Lieutenants, 7 Sergeants, and 37 Patrol Officers and 1 Animal Welfare Officer; 10 of the staff are females and there are 46 males. Two Patrol Officers were promoted to Sergeants, and a Lieutenant was promoted to Captain. Two Patrol Officers were hired.

Communication Center (Emergency Dispatch)

Has 13 employees: 1 Administrator and 12 Emergency Dispatchers; 6 are female and 7 males.

Parking Enforcement

Has a staff of 3, 1 female and 2 males

Maintenance/Custodial

8 employees, 3 females and 5 males.

PLANNING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

Conservation Department

Is made up of 5 employees, 2 females and 3 males.

Inspection Services

Employs 6 staff, 2 females and 4 males.

Planning

Have a staff of 4, 2 females and 2 males.

HUMAN SERVICES

Council on Aging

Has a staff of 5, 1 Administrator, 1 Social Worker and all are females.

Health Department

Have a staff of 7, 1 Administrator, 2 Sanitarians, 1 Public Nurse, 1 Outreach Worker, and a Social Justice Worker; 6 females and 1 male.

<u>Leisure Services and Supplemental Education</u>

Consists of 8 females and 3 males with a total of 11 permanent staff, plus summer help. Veteran Services

1 full-time female employee and several volunteers.

JONES LIBRARY

The Amherst Libraries (three locations) are made up of 29 staff members; 21 females, and 8 males.

PUBLIC WORKS

DPW has a total of 57 employees: 2 Administrators, 2 Management Assistants, 1 Town Engineer, 1 Jr. Civil Engineer, 1 Engineering Technician, and 1 Utilities Technician. There are 5 females and 52 males employed with DPW.

There are 3 remaies and 32 males

Equipment Maintenance

1 Division Supervisor and 2 Mechanics.

Highway Division

1 Division Director, 2 Crew Supervisors, 1 Roadway Sign & Paint Technician, 1 Maintenance Worker, and 1 Laborer.

Equipment Operators

4 Equipment Operators.

Skilled Laborer/Truck Drivers

5 skilled Laborer/Truck Drivers.

Landfill and Recycling

1 Facilities Supervisor, 1 Equipment Operator, and 1 Skilled Laborer/Truck Driver.

Parks and Commons

1 Crew Supervisor, 2 Maintenance Workers, 2 Skilled Laborers/Truck Drivers, and 1 Laborer.

Street & Traffic Lights

1 Division Director, 1 Electrician.

Tree Care and Pest Control

1 Crew Supervisor, 1 Equipment Operator, and 1 Laborer.

Wastewater Treatment Plant & Pumping Station

1 Division Director, 1 Mechanic/Supervisor, 1 Lab Technician, 2 Crew Supervisors, 2 Mechanics, and 2 Maintenance Workers.

Plant Operators

4 Plant Operators.

Water Division

1 Division Director, 1 Division Supervisor, 1 Treatment Operator, 1 Mechanic, 1 Meter Reader, 1 Skilled Laborer/Truck Driver, 2 Maintenance Workers, and 32 Treatment operators.

In conclusion, I would like to appreciate the support of the staff in the Town Manager's Office during this period of transition.

Respectfully submitted by,

Eunice Torres, Human Resources/Rights Director

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Fiscal Year 2008

The Human Rights Commission (HRC or Commission) has been no less active than in past years as we have sought to reach a balance of efforts to support the Director and to fulfill the educational mission of educating the community of issues that fall in the purview of Human Rights.

Following our 2007 HRC Retreat, we embarked on establishing sub-committees now that we are fully staffed with nine (9) Commissioners. We have been proud of the ethnic diversity and the three (3) included students that have assisted us. It has, however, been imbalanced gender-wise with but three (3) males.

Our concerns varied – from issues dealing with the process, or lack thereof, for hiring our school principals – that a process be implemented that reflects the best qualified pool of candidates to select from. A continuing item is a need to identify and attract candidates for the Commission. We are currently hampered from utilizing citizens with expertise from the Leverett, Sunderland and Pelham communities according to the present Town Bylaw governing and preventing us from their consideration.

<u>Exit Interviews</u>: In the same vein a concern for exit interviews arose once again to offer discussion opportunity for retaining our faculty of color, particularly, which plagues our staffing diversity and directly affects students of color – their progress and inspiration.

Area College Communications: A meeting with UMass Amherst interim Chancellor Thomas Cole came into being with a concern for periodic issues that area students (citizens) become concerned about. A hoped for result will be improved intracommunication heading off any campus issues with a UMass Amherst student or staff member joining the Commission in the future. We will seek to have the same relationship with Amherst and Hampshire Colleges in the future.

<u>Darfur:</u> Our Co-chair, a Sudanese native and the HRC liaison to the Darfur coalition, has kept us informed first-hand regarding the progress and lack thereof of the prevailing conditions to stem the genocide and restore peace in Darfur.

ANNUALIZED EVENTS

The Young Heroes Award: This effort publicly recognizes students of the elementary and middle schools through faculty nominations. Students would have exhibited a tangible, demonstrated concern for others in some exemplary manner. Certificates and book gift awards have been deservingly popular. Sixteen (16) students were recognized at the Amherst Community Pot-Luck Gathering at the Mill River Recreation Area in June.

<u>The Universal Declaration of Human Rights:</u> The annual celebration was made on the Common on Dec. 10th. Attendees included members of the Commission, Amnesty International guests, two Select Board members, and the Town Manager. We hope to expand this important event as budget and necessary publicity permits.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Continued Commission discussion: How to celebrate the work of Dr. King throughout the year vs. a single event remains a topic of design discussion.

<u>Coming Out Day:</u> The October 11th celebration activity did not occur this year as we determined that another organization was, in effect, honoring this event.

OTHER EVENTS OF MAJOR CONCERN

<u>Fair Trade</u> of certain products; the issue was brought before the group to be available in Amherst and subsequently adopted by Town Meeting. Twenty-seven (27) stores in Amherst are now selling same. For information, e-mail: fairtrade@earthlink.net.

<u>LSSE Issues:</u> The lack of funds from our poorer citizens to assure participation in summer events is a continuing source of emotional trauma for the less fortunate. In a plea for support the following resolution was forwarded to appropriate decision-making sources for action:

To alleviate economic discrimination against disabled Amherst residents and the children of low income families, the Amherst Human Rights Commission recommends the restoration of funds to the LSSE budget sufficient to:

- subsidize the participation of disabled adults living in Amherst to partake in LSSE programs,
- to allow children from low income families to participate in LSSE programs at a reduced rate of 75% reduction for those children eligible for free-lunches and 66% for those children eligible for reduced school lunches,
- LSSE and the HRC believe recreation is important to children in their maturation, that recreation is educational as well as social and enjoyable and therefore essential to children's well being,
- The loss of all financial subsidies for adults especially those with disabilities are human rights issues as it further marginalizes disabled people from normal activities enjoyed by the non-disabled.

OTHER CONCERNS & ISSUES

<u>Special Municipal Employee Status:</u> We have received said designation giving Commissioners some protection against legal action similar to paid town employees.

Municipal Office(s) Reorganization: The reorganization and merger of the Human Resources/Human Rights Department has been implemented. The Director became the Human Rights/Human Resources Director starting on July 1st and will participate in the hiring of Town employees: clerical, public works, fire, and police. The focus of the Human Rights area was redirected internally to train Town employees on issues of diversity, sensitivity, and social justice in the workforce. The Commission is most concerned that the new physical location of the Human Rights Director has resulted in fewer complaints and drop-ins from citizens with issues or concerns regarding civil rights violations, harassment and other discrimination issues. Although office space is maintained at the Bangs for appointments, there have been 10 complaints from citizens

and Town employees combined for FY 08, two of which were written and are in the process of being investigated. There were fewer calls and alleged civil rights violations and less information and referral made. The assumption is that because of the relocation of the office, the population that is served does not feel comfortable coming to Town Hall for lack of privacy and anonymity.

<u>Concern:</u> That the HRC Director might no longer have the time to investigate and resolve Human Rights complaints, given her new duties as Human Resources Director.

<u>Multiple Board-Monitoring:</u> Commissioners have had the opportunity to bring issues to their colleagues arising from their positioning on other boards that might impact the human rights of individuals. The Amherst Education Foundation, the Faith Community, the Katrina-Bay St. Louis, Mississippi activity (our informal sister city) supporting the ten (10) artists who came here for the September – October Apple Harvest Festival, and the low numbers of faculty of color in the school system that affect recruitment and retention, are a few examples.

<u>Concern:</u> That the Amherst Bulletin used as a headline that there was parent and staff dissatisfaction with Wildwood Principal, Mark Prince. Absent a formal complaint, we were not empowered to move forward on the issue.

Op Ed Newspaper Articles: We did attempt to plan and write articles of importance for bi-monthly newspaper publication. One was successfully accomplished regarding the Town conversations of recruitment and retention of faculty of color in the schools.

No Place for Hate Designation: The HRC was asked by the Watertown, MA community to withdraw our No Place for Hate community status in support of the 1909 Turkish atrocities against the Armenians. [The National Defamation League did not declare these atrocities as genocide]. The HRC agreed to withdraw from the No Place for Hate program in support of the defenders of the Armenian people who were martyred.

The Director, Chair, and Co-chair will be actively recruiting persons to serve on the HRC and encourages any and all who have the hope that the need for such a Commission will fade away but until then, challenge and invite all to sign a Citizen's Activity Form to be found in Town Hall and help us with your enthusiasm and/ or expertise.

Respectfully Submitted for the HRC, Eunice Torres, Human Rights Director Reynolds Winslow, HRC Chair Magda Ahmed, HRC Co-chair

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2008

This year the Information Technology (IT) Department again made measurable progress in the area of technology consolidation and standardization. The technology revolution did not show any sign of slowing, especially in the areas of wireless and mobile technologies, and the result was another significant increase in Department service levels, and additional devices and software systems needing to connect and communicate over the Town's technology infrastructure. The IT Department has identified consolidation and standardization as a critical element in ensuring that Department responsibilities can continue to increase at a slower rate than annual operating expenses and staffing levels.

The largest software undertaking the IT Department led this year was the migration to MUNIS for all permitting and code enforcement needs. Many departments were involved in migration including Planning, Zoning, Inspections, Health, Public Works and Fire. The migration was multipronged and included staff training, data migration, software installation and hardware implementation. The result will be more proficient communications in and between departments, netting superior services for Amherst citizens and professionals.

The IT Department made significant progress on our Public GIS Viewer, which is one of the most advanced and sophisticated interactive web-based Public GIS Viewers in Massachusetts. Most notable is the progress made related to 3D modeling and viewing and the easy connections now available for citizens and professionals between our online system and Google's mapping systems. The result will be even more informed citizens, board and committee members, increased taxpayer confidence in tax assessments, an improved permitting process, and a common Town database-driven map set, with a common interface, to be used by decision makers at every level.

One of the most significant achievements the IT Department completed last year was the installation and testing of the first large-scale Community Wireless Mesh network in Massachusetts. When complete roughly one square mile of downtown Amherst was covered by Public Wi-Fi, via almost 30 strategically-placed access points. This year, the IT Department connected the system to our newly installed fiber optic connection to 1 Federal Street in Springfield, MA. This has created an extremely high-speed connection to the Internet through our public wireless systems, which in turn, has dramatically increased the number of people who now connect to the system every day.

As more and more technology systems have been added, the IT Department has been mindful of the increase in energy consumption required. To deal with this, the Department took several steps towards minimizing energy consumption, including ongoing optimization of Windows XP desktops and laptops to automatically power off monitors and initiate low-power consumption mode during inactivity, purchasing flat panel monitors, and purchasing only EPA Energy Star-compliant devices. The Department attempts to set an example in making choices and implementing technologies which are environmentally-sensitive.

In addition to the many projects completed this year, the IT Department worked diligently behind the scenes, maintaining, repairing, and updating current systems. With

the ever-increasing amount of "junk" e-mail and the constant threat of viruses and hackers, software upgrades to servers, PCs and other technology systems become a daily necessity. The IT Department maintains several layers and types of specialized security hardware and software, lowering the risk of unauthorized network intrusion and viruses. The Department also maintains a variety of backup systems; both onsite and offsite, ensuring that, in a disaster, the Town's information and systems would be safe.

The citizen expectation of a more open and digitally accessible government continues to increase. In the coming year, the IT Department will continue to maintain software and infrastructure standards, extend more information and tools to constituents via the Town's websites, provide departments, boards and committees with the necessary technologies to perform primary functions that operate efficiently, and leverage new technologies in ways which will serve Amherst residents for years to come.

Kristopher J. Pacunas Director

INSPECTION SERVICES

Fiscal Year 2008

In an effort to meet the concerns of the community a number of changes were instituted or initiated within the Inspection Services Department.

One change included closing the office to the public on Thursdays to provide the inspectors time for concentrated and uninterrupted plan review, time to enter inspections in the permanent record and time to issue permits. There are also regular meetings between the Building Department inspections teams and the inspection teams from other Town departments, most notably Fire and Health, to help promote communication between the Departments and to coordinate the concerns and status of on-going construction projects.

The other major change instituted was the reorganization of the electrical inspections divisions within the Department. The full time and part time electrical inspectors' positions were replaced by two part time/scheduled inspections positions. This is a model the Department has been using for a number of years for the plumbing and gas inspections.

Changes that are currently in process include: moving the Inspection Services
Department to the second floor, in with the Planning/Zoning and Conservation
Departments; cross-training support staff in these departments to help handle work loads with respect to incoming paperwork; and a change in the permitting software to a software that interconnects more departments than our current permitting software.

The total number of permits issued by Inspection Services in FY 08 was 2,794 which amounted to \$572,590.54 in permit fees. There were 779 Building Permits issued with a total of \$353,486.04 in permit fees, just over 61% of the total fees taken in by Inspection Services in FY 08. The electrical fees accounted for another 22% of the income with the balance coming in from Plumbing, Gas, Certificates of Inspection, Weights and Measures and Demolition permits.

Changes in personnel included the departure of both Paul Choiniere, the full time electrical inspector, and Fred Hartwell, the part time electrical inspector, after a number of years of service with the Town.

Theron Brock Schmalz and John Bigelow joined our staff as the part time/on call electrical inspectors.

Emily Silgard and Alicia Johnson joined our staff for a short time as temporary part time support staff as we worked to implement the new software and to provide office assistance after the almost 4 month absence of the Inspections Services only permanent support staff.

Major projects ongoing at Amherst College in FY 08 included: the Charles Pratt Dorm conversion and addition, scheduled for completion in the fall of 2007; and the completion of the Hamilton and Porter Dorm renovations. The major alterations and upgrades to the Charles Drew Dorm and Mayo-Smith Dorm were also projects for FY 08.

Hampshire College upgrades included: continued renovations of the Enfield Student Housing and the addition to the Jerome Liebling Film and Photography building.

Other major projects ongoing or new in FY 08 included: the expansion of Judie's Restaurant, the renovation and addition project at Grace Church on Boltwood Avenue, the renovation and addition for Bank of Western Mass on 25 East Pleasant, and the multi family projects at Greenleaves, 208 Pine Street, 151 Amity Street, Emerson Court and 615 Main Street.

In addition to doing inspections at the other colleges, our Electrical Inspectors also inspect the UMass projects. The new projects there, in combination with all the other work around town, have kept them extremely busy.

It has been another hectic year for Inspection Services. Once again we thank all of those who have worked with us for your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely, Bonita Weeks Building Commissioner

JOINT CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2007

Section 5.2 of the Amherst Town Government Act states that "the Town Manager, with the advice of a joint capital planning committee comprised of representatives from the Select Board, finance committee, school committee and library trustees, shall develop a capital improvement program to be presented to the select board, finance committee, school committee and library trustees in time to be included in the finance committee report to the next annual town meeting." The Joint Capital Planning Committee (JCPC) has two members each from the Select Board, School Committee, Library Trustees and Finance Committee. The JCPC's focus during FY 08 was to update the Town's five-year capital plan for the period FY 09 – 13 and develop specific recommendations for FY 09 for consideration at the 2008 Annual Town Meeting. The group met almost weekly over the winter and spring to evaluate and prioritize requests from the Town, schools and libraries for major capital expenditures that have an estimated useful life of at least five years and cost at least \$5,000.

Funds for the recommended Five Year Capital Plan come from the following sources: property taxes, enterprise and other special purpose funds of the Town, grant funds from the federal and state governments, and from unexpended balances from previously authorized capital projects. The plan assumes commitment of 7.25% of the local property tax levy in FY 09. Earlier capital plans used as much as 10% of the tax levy, which along with the other resources was enough, or almost enough, to keep up with renovation and maintenance of existing buildings, and also equipment replacement, but not enough to cover significant new projects. Beginning in FY 05, that percentage was reduced annually and dropped to a low of 7% for FY 08, after the defeat of the Proposition 2½ override in 2007. JCPC recommended that funding for capital should increase to 7.25% of the local property tax levy in FY 09, and incrementally in succeeding years to 9.5% in FY 13.

Despite the slight increase in the percentage of tax levy used in FY 09 compared to FY 08, proposals for capital plan funding exceeded available revenues by more than \$1.3 million. In order to construct a capital plan balanced with projected revenues, some capital recommendations were reduced in amount, many were deferred to later years, and many were eliminated altogether and placed onto an "unfunded" list for reconsideration in future years.

JCPC recommended and Town Meeting approved expenditure of \$610,000 of Chapter 90 money from the State for qualifying road projects (\$500,000) and a new backhoe/front end loader for the DPW (\$110,000).

Expenditures for capital equipment recommended by JCPC and approved by Town Meeting totaled \$1,861,400 and included: \$39,000 for photocopiers; \$123,000 for Town technology infrastructure equipment replacement (computers and network equipment); \$40,000 for the Town's share of a Geographic Information System (GIS) base map update; \$130,000 for the replacement of four police cruisers; \$160,000 for replacement of the Fire Department's oldest ambulance; \$25,000 for a replacement staff car for use by the Assistant Chief for Fire Prevention and EMS; \$635,000 for a "Quint" fire apparatus (combination pumper/ladder truck) to enhance the Fire Department's fire suppression capacity and first-due response; \$67,400 for replacement of firefighter career force protective gear; \$115,000 to replace the DPW's Bombardier Sidewalk Plow; \$60,500 for the Highway Division and \$60,000 for the Parks and Common Division to purchase two replacement one-ton dump trucks; \$22,000 for a new Cherry Hill Golf Course greens mower; \$20,000 for Jones Library technology infrastructure and \$5,000 for a library photocopier replacement; \$160,000 to replace two school buses; \$40,000 to replace a 1999 school handicapped van; \$4,000 for school telecommunications equipment; \$23,000 for school photocopiers; \$116,000 for school computer equipment; and \$16,500 for school multimedia audio/visual equipment.

JCPC recommended and Town Meeting approved a total of \$727,500 for building repairs and renovations. There were two projects totaling \$625,000 to be funded by borrowing; \$420,000 to repair and replace the roof and heating ventilation and cooling (HVAC) systems at the Bangs Community Center and \$205,000 borrowing authorization to purchase portable classroom units for Marks Meadow Elementary School. These funds supplement \$195,000 previously appropriated for this purpose in November 2007. Other building projects included: \$10,000 for ongoing facility improvements/repairs at the DPW Garage; \$50,000 to study the existing DPW facility to identify shortcomings in the facility with regards to current State and Federal health, safety and occupational standards; \$14,000 to Jones Library for slate roof and gutter repairs; \$3,500 for exterior safety lighting at the South Amherst School; \$10,000 to replace old door locks at the South Amherst and East Street Schools as part of a district-wide school security program; \$10,000 for ongoing asbestos removal at all schools; and \$5,000 to repair HVAC system leaks at the Crocker Farm School.

A total of \$128,500 was funded for other facilities needs. The Solid Waste Fund budget included \$88,000 for a Comprehensive Site Assessment at the old landfill. Taxation-funded recommendations included: \$18,000 to begin a 10-year replacement schedule for streetlights; \$10,000 for a solar-powered pedestrian crossing signal near the entrance to Crocker Farm; and \$12,500 to begin a multi-year (and we hope a permanent) program to purchase and plant new street trees each year.

The Five Year Capital Plan identified several major projects on the horizon, including the potential for one or two new fire stations, major renovations at both Wildwood and Fort River Elementary Schools, and the Public Works garage, and possibly additional borrowing for roads and sidewalks to address a growing backlog. Many other projects large and small will compete for scarce resources. For example, the FY 09 – 13 Capital Plan recommended debt service funding for a new fire station (either a new or renovated headquarters or a new substation in South Amherst) in Year 5 (FY 13). This is only possible if the Town increases funding allocations to the capital budget over a period of years as recommended by the JCPC and the Finance Committee. An adequately funded capital plan should be a critical component of any long-term financial plan for the Town.

Our entire Five Year Capital Plan Report for FY 09 -13 can be found on the Town's website.

JOINT CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Anne Awad, Select Board Hwei-Ling Greeney, Select Board (thru 4/1/08) Elaine Brighty, School Committee Kathleen Anderson, School Committee Kay Moran, Finance Committee Doug Slaughter, Finance Committee Patricia Holland, Jones Library Trustees Molly Turner, Jones Library Trustees

Staff Liaison: John Musante, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director

KANEGASAKI SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

Members: Byron Koh (Chair), Nancy Bess, Denise Boyd, Carolyn Platt, Stephanie Joyce, Helen

MacMellon, Yuko Takahashi Staff Liaison: Nancy Pagano

Proposal from Mayor Takahashi

In September KSCC Chair Byron Koh received word from our Kanegasaki liaison Miyuki Sato that Mayor Takahashi wanted to invite an English teacher from Amherst to come to Kanegasaki for at least one year to teach English and Amherst culture. The position would be as "Coordinator of International Relations of Kanegasaki". The teacher would have his/her rent and salary paid by the city. This teacher would not have to speak fluent Japanese. The KSCC decided that more information about this proposal was needed before deciding to undertake a search for the right person. It seemed clear that the teacher going to Kanegasaki would need to have connections with business, the schools and the ability to connect with Amherst resources to help with the facilitation of ideas between the two cities. The KSCC identified areas that would need further discussion and made some recommendations to consider and these were shared with the Mayor:

- A year's length of service might be too long a commitment—perhaps a few weeks to a few months would appeal to more applicants.
- Because the academic year for teachers here is September through May, and Kanegasaki's starts in April, the KSCC suggested June, July and August as being particularly attractive to teachers as this time period would not jeopardize contractual obligations already in place.
- The KSCC thought that it would not be difficult to find an Amherst citizen (not necessarily a teacher) who would welcome the opportunity to go to Kanegasaki to offer knowledge in their own professional discipline and who could further understanding of Amherst culture. It would also not be difficult to find a graduate student from one of the local colleges who would be interested and who had basic Japanese language ability. The difficulty would be to find someone qualified to teach English as a second language who also understood the culture and traditions of the community and could be relied upon to commit to staying in the Amherst area to promoting further understanding of the Sister City relationship after the year in Japan.

The Mayor is rethinking his idea and wrote to say he understands the practicalities involved and is committed to advancing our mutual understandings and encouraging the people of Kanegasaki to learn English. He welcomes our advice and ideas about how to do this.

Annual March Visit of Kanegasaki Middle School Students

The 2008 Kanegasaki Middle School visit was another successful event. Fifteen students and three chaperones (Miyuki Sato of the Central Lifelong Learning Center, Kanegasaki Vice-Principal Nobuyuki Kudo, and Takahashi Yukihiro of the Mizusawa Tourist Service) arrived Wednesday, March 19st, at the Amherst Town Hall where eager families, Town officials and KSCC members greeted them. Kanegasaki Committee members Nancy Bess and Nancy Pagano organized the welcome party, while Town Manager Laurence Shaffer and Select Board Chair Gerry Weiss, made official welcoming remarks. Denise Boyd, who is a KSCC committee member as well as the coordinator for the exchange for the Amherst Middle School, introduced the Japanese students to their host families. Once students and families left for their homes, the

chaperones were taken to their accommodations at the Lord Jeffery Inn and later to dinner by Denise Boyd and Libby Hurley from the Middle School and Yuko Takahashi from the KSCC.

The first full day of the Amherst stay (Thursday, 3/20), the chaperones and students visited the Amherst Regional Middle School (ARMS) and the students were able to attend classes with their host students. The chaperones were welcomed by Principal, Ms. Fran Ziperstein, and were given a tour of the school. Afterward the chaperones had a chance to meet with the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jere Hochman, before rejoining the Japanese students for an English lesson. That evening the students spent with the host families. The chaperones were treated to a delicious dinner prepared by members of the KSCC at the home of member Nancy Bess before returning to their accommodations at the Lord Jeffrey Inn.

Early Friday, Denise picked the chaperones up at the Lord Jeff and brought them to the Middle School where they joined the host students and visiting students for a class and then the visiting students and chaperones were brought on a field trip to Historic Old Deerfield and the nearby Butterfly Museum. That evening, while the Japanese students were entertained by the host families, KSCC members took the chaperones out to dinner at Bertucci's.

The last day of the visit, Saturday, included shopping time at Yankee Candle and Richardson's Candy Kitchen in Deerfield for the chaperones with KSCC liaison Nancy Pagano. Following this, the chaperones were driven to Louise Reilly's home for lunch and later they were brought to the Northampton Bowling Alley for a bowling party with the Japanese students and American host students and their families. That evening a lovely potluck Farewell Dinner was held at the Amherst Regional High School with KSCC members, host families and all students and chaperones.

Amherst-Kanegasaki Sister Library Exchange

The Amherst-Kanegasaki Sister Library relationship continues. Last winter 2007, Kanegasaki sent the Jones Library about a dozen books for its adult collections. This following spring 2008, the Jones sent Kanegasaki a variety of sixteen books and AV items lovingly chosen by KSCC member and Librarian Carolyn Platt.

Many of the materials sent were used, but in like-new condition. This was a bit of a concern to Carolyn, but because of budget constraints, it couldn't be helped. The kind people from Kanegasaki let Carolyn know that our friendship is the most important thing and they stated that used books are fine with them. Another shipment is already being prepared for the fall.

Town Manager Plans Visit to Kanegasaki

Larry Shaffer met with the KSCC to discuss his desire to visit all of the Amherst sister cities during his tenure. This will mean visiting Kanegasaki, Japan; La Paz Centro in Nicaragua; and Nyeri, Kenya.

Kanegasaki Mayor Yoshiichi Takahashi would very much like to have this happen in 2010 when he has a special celebration planned marking the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Kanegasaki Friendship Committee. Town Manager Laurence Shaffer is amenable to that timing and approached the KSCC to help with the trip coordination and gifts. KSCC members are brainstorming about creating a memory book for this occasion.

Looking Ahead

In FY 09, the KSCC will continue to focus on assisting school and Amherst Town officials when Kanegasaki contingents visit Amherst. We are committed to supporting the important work of promoting peace and understanding between different cultures.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Hirsh Pagano, Secretary/Staff Liaison

KENDRICK PARK COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

The Kendrick Park Committee (KPC) was created by the Town Manager in 2008. The purpose of the KPC was to consider all of the options for the use, beautification and preservation of Kendrick Park and to prepare a recommendation to the Town Manager for the same. The KPC was also charged with the task of generating public input on the various potential uses for the park seeking to achieve the widest possible public comment on the community's wishes. The KPC is made up of fifteen (15) members and has four (4) subcommittees devoted to assisting with the various particular efforts. The subcommittees are the Historic and Esthetic Subcommittee, Natural and Landscape Subcommittee, Public Market Subcommittee and the Recreation Subcommittee.

Kendrick Park is a vacant parcel of land located on the northern edge of downtown Amherst. Kendrick Park is approximately three (3) acres in size and is an island created by North Pleasant Street, Triangle Street and East Pleasant Street. The property is a gift to the Town from the estate of George and Jenny Kendrick whose intent was to create a park where once a neighborhood existed. The property is splendidly located with the University to its north, commercial to its east and a mixed-use residential neighborhood to its west. While Kendrick Park rises in elevation from south to north, it grows in width to a stately two hundred (200) feet. The land is such that it may accommodate many potential uses.

The KPC has accomplished the following:

- Election of a chair, Margaret Roberts for a term to begin on May 15, 2008 and to end on June 30, 2009
- Recommended the use of Kendrick Park for the sale of Christmas trees by the Boy Scouts for the 2009 holiday season
- Visited Keene, New Hampshire on May 31, 2008 to visit with City of Keene officials and take a tour of the recently created, Ashuelot River Park, an urban park located on West Street, Keene, New Hampshire.
- Completed a tree inventory and listed that data on the Town of Amherst Geographic Information System (GIS) located on the town web site
- Prepared informational material to solicit public input and comment for publication.

The KPC is a highly energetic committee deeply committed to addressing the wonderful opportunity associated with this marvelous gift. The KPC recognizes the unique nature of this property and is in vigorous pursuit of public input on the final design and use of Kendrick Park.

LA PAZ CENTRO/AMHERST SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

Active Members
Alice Allen
Cindy Asebrook
Carol & Paul Baker
Mark & Nancy Haffey
Jeannie Jones
Chuck & Nancy Milch
Kathy & Walter Mullin
Mary Santiago
Lyle Seger
Anne & Ed Stanek

Our major effort in La Paz Centro continues to be the scholarship program that supports 26 students through their high school graduation. We support the students not only with school fees and uniforms, but also through tutoring and enrichment field trips. It is a rigorous program, which means there is some turnover if students can't maintain the necessary grades. Students who leave the program are immediately replaced by other students. The result is that the graduates of the program are very strong students with leadership promise, who do their best to continue on to college or trade schools.

The committee sent three delegates (one who covered his own flight) to La Paz Centro in June, 2008. They met with numerous people and thoroughly reviewed the program. Following feedback on this visit, the Amherst committee decided to fund the purchase of a small piece of land adjacent to the Community Center to ensure its permanent use for community recreational purposes. The Community Center has become the center of an impressive new development area in the town.

One of our primary goals for this coming year is to try to increase the committee membership in La Paz Centro in order that it be more representative of the whole community. We also plan to send a committee delegation annually, as the insight gained into the program through these visits is invaluable. We are hoping to develop some programs that have greater community outreach in the future.

We continue to support the Sister City program through three major annual fundraising efforts:

- 1. A September Tag Sale on the Town Common
- 2. A fundraising letter sent out in November
- 3. Coffee sales at Town Meeting

Over the years, we have attempted various projects, some of which have been successful and others of which are being phased out, but the scholarship program continues to be strong and well-supported by our colleagues in La Paz Centro. The students in La Paz Centro continue to be extremely grateful for the help provided by the Town of Amherst.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Z. Stanek, Chairperson

LEISURE SERVICES AND SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (LSSE)

Fiscal Year 2008

LSSE Commission

In FY 08, Monica Wisniewski joined the ranks of the LSSE Commission and together with members; James Patulak, Afranio Torres-Neto, Peter Blier, Vice Chair and Stanley Ziomek, Chair, worked to provide input and oversight for the LSSE Department. Throughout the year an assortment of capital projects, long range planning and budgetary topics were reviewed including the new Kendrick Park project, the LSSE and Conservation Open Space and Recreation Plan, the FY 09 Budget, proposed closure of the War Memorial Pool and reduced aquatics opportunities at the Middle School Pool.

LSSE Staff

FY 08 was a very difficult time on a staffing level for LSSE. Our long time Operations Manager of 21 years, Laurel Kushi, bid farewell to LSSE in October. Carol Rogers, LSSE's Arts and Education Director, also chose to end her short but successful stay at LSSE and left the Department at the end of March. These staff were not immediately replaced but plans were made to fill these positions at the end of the fiscal year. An important new hire did take place in FY 07, however, and that was the hiring and promotion of veteran seasonal staffer, John Coelho, to the position of Course Superintendent.

Annual Budget and Program Losses and Gains

Austere budgetary predictions for FY 09 threatened the closure of the War Memorial Pool for the second straight year, however, the LSSE Commission, the Select Board and Town Meeting elected to reorganize the LSSE Department and tackle new fundraising plans rather than close this longtime community resource. The War Memorial Pool and the Groff Park Wading Pool did experience a late start opening at the beginning of FY 08, however. This was due to the late Town Meeting decision to fund the pool the prior year. The War Memorial Swimming Pool opened on July 11 in 2007 and the Groff Wader opened a week later. This late opening and the displacement of numerous traditional community swimming programs accounted for substantially lower outdoor pool attendance records in FY 08.

Aquatics programs overall took a major loss when the Amherst Community Aquatics Center, (Middle School Pool) was shuttered during the months of September through November due to LSSE's inability to pay the Amherst School Department a proposed energy/maintenance fee of \$40,000. A resolution was reached late fall to open the pool in December in return for a compromised \$22,000 fee. This closure unfortunately led to a substantial drop in swimming lesson offerings and these are reflected in the statistics portion of the report. Indoor pool lessons were down 58% or 268 fewer registrations. The drop in swimming lesson registrations was even more dramatic when compared to FY 06. In that year there were 385 fewer swimming lesson registrations compared to FY 08.

On the positive side of programming LSSE staff continued to successfully respond to the challenge of operating the Cherry Hill Golf Course. Spectacular special events, new tournaments, new marketing, concessions improvements, increased and continuing collaborations, etc., all were deployed in a sustained effort to provide a quality facility, stronger programs, and greater revenue. In fact, Cherry Hill's revenue increased by 20% with a net profit of \$56,969.

Cherry Hill saw growth in at least three new tournaments and a bevy of new outings. Collaborations were key to Cherry Hill's success as a Master's graduate level intern from the University of Massachusetts, Department of Plant, Soil and Insect Sciences was recruited to conduct greens analyses, soil testing and provide an Integrated Pest Management Plan. The University also figured in prominently with collaborations with the University's Conference Services for marketing purposes and a continued collaboration with the University's Hospitality and Tourism Department. Fran Johnson's Golf, Inc. joined the proshop to supply goods and special events and PGA professionals, Bob Bontempo and Marissa Kulig conducted clinics, lessons and youth camps.

Notably, in the April 2008 Valley Advocate Reader's Poll, Cherry Hill was voted the 2nd Best Golf Course in Western Massachusetts, reconfirming that Cherry Hill is true to it's motto of "*A Course for Everyone*." The Women's League, women's clinics, youth clinics and youth camps all strive to send the message that the Cherry Hill Golf Course is meant for everyone.

Clubhouse and general improvements to the course continued to make favorable impressions and strengthen player commitments. Major enhancements to the course included improvements to greens, collars and approaches, improved cutting regiment, reconfigured landscapes, tee box, drainage and bunker improvements and more. A new clubhouse sign was installed and management developed an off season newsletter to keep members apprised of year round activities.

Special Events were a prominent feature at the Cherry Hill Golf Course this past year. The special events began with a salute to Fall with an Octoberfest celebration which included food, a putting contest and live music compliments of the Amherst Oompah Band. On November 10th a temporary nine-hole disc golf course was arranged to celebrate Disc Golf Day at Cherry Hill. An appreciative crowd of 160 women, men and children participated in a grand day of disc golf further expanding the number of first time users to the course. But the starring role in Cherry Hill's selection of special events went to the February 2008 Winterfest Celebration. Approximately 1,500 participants flowed in and out of the course participating in this first ever event brought together by the Friends of Amherst Recreation, Amherst Leisure Services and the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce. A myriad of activities including; snow sculpture contests, a chili cook-off, cross country skiing races, the amazing Kardboard Classic sled races, sleigh rides, live music and other events all culminated in a fireworks finale.

Capital Projects

The Plum Brook Athletic Fields Project moved to near completion in 2008 with the installment of the recreation area sign and final plantings. Plans were made to open the site in the spring of 2009 in order to provide another season of grass growth in preparation for extensive play.

A proposal to the Community Preservation Committee and Town Meeting was made and approved a \$20,000 request from Leisure Services for due diligence funding. These funds will be used for wetlands delineations, appraisals, surveys and for other expenses that may be incurred in the expectation of purchasing property.

The Groff Park Restrooms were completely rebuilt as a result of the Department of Public works construction efforts and opened to the public in the spring of 2008.

LSSE Program Statistics	FY 08	FY 07
Aquatics		
Outdoor Pools – Lessons	457	573
Outdoor Pools Memberships	118	154
Indoor Pool-Lessons	243	511
Indoor Pool Memberships	85	81
Total	903	1,319
Sports		
Youth Sports Camps	935	880
Youth Basketball	615	653
Youth Football	62	76
Adult Softball	28 teams	32 teams
Adult Volleyball	4 teams	4 teams
Skiing/Snowboarding	142	144
Ultimate	452	597
Sandlot Programs-Adult	745	741
Sandlot Programs- Youth	0	39
Girls Softball	78	106
Youth Soccer	1,545	1,504
Total	4,606	4,776
Vacation and Day Camps		
Outdoor Challenge	138	156
Early Adventures	134	201
Adventure Playground	344	414
Vacation Camps	101	89
Prime Time	79	78
Total	796	1,318
Performing Arts		
Community Theater Tickets	4,629	4,546
Valley Light Opera Tickets	2,396	1,829
Total	7,025	6,375
Youth Classes		
Instructional	248	288
Visual Arts	176	112
Total	424	400
Adult Education		
Hobbies	102	66
Health	178	265
Sports	20	12
Performing Arts	170	236
Personal Development	118	350
Visual Arts	103	157
Total	691	1,086

Special Events

Halloween	273	176
July 4 th	3,000 (rain)	20,000
Winterfest	1,500	0
Disc Golf Day	160	0
Octoberfest	55	0
Total	5,988	20,078
Pavilion Rentals	63	86
Special Needs Registrants	73	80
Fee Subsidies- Households	215	187
Fee Subsidies –Individuals	761	567

LIBRARIES

Fiscal Year 2008

The Jones Library, Munson Memorial Library, North Amherst Library Amherst's meeting place for education and cultural pursuits

Where Readers Meet Authors, Poets and Artists

Amherst is known far and wide as a town that values books and literature. A November 15, 2007 New York Times travel article described the scene "In the Valley of the Literate," highlighting Jones Library's book discussions on graphic novels and the jubilat/Jones poetry readings as contributions to the Valley's creative life. The "Modern Marvels" discussion series explored five Jewish adventures portrayed through artwork in graphic novels and was funded by a grant awarded by the American Library Association and Nextbook. Twelve poets engaged audiences with their latest poems in readings organized by jubilat magazine, which were funded in part by the Friends of the Jones Library System and the Amherst Cultural Council. As part of the series, James Tate read from work appearing in his latest book The Ghost Soldiers to an overflow crowd.

Jones Library was honored to host Leslie Garis reading from *House of Happy Endings*, her autobiographical account of growing up in Amherst which reveals poignant details of three generations of writers in the Garis family. Everywoman's Center brought together 5 women poets for an afternoon of inspiration. Mystery author Archer Mayor returned for a reading from his latest Vermont crime novel entitled *Chat*. Local foodies enjoyed readings by Mary Lou and Robert Heiss on *The Story of Tea* and by Leslie Cerrier on organic gourmet cooking.

Susan Tilton Pecora, host of the WGBY television show "Reflections in Watercolor," answered questions from local artists as she demonstrated expert watercolor techniques. The program was sponsored by the Friends of the Jones Library system and the Amherst Cultural Council. Twenty local artists exhibited their work in the Burnett Gallery, ranging from bird photography by John Van de Graaff, mosaics by Cynthia Fisher, and paintings on the theme "Contemplations" by M.J. Alhabeeb. Exhibits in the courtyard ranged from "A soldier remembers Japan, 1945-1946" World War II photographs by John Roberts to documentary images of refugees in Darfur to information on black bears from the Connecticut Valley Wildlife District, complete with a full size, furry black bear and cub.

Learning is Fun in the Children's Library!

Thousands of children visited the Amherst Town Libraries to learn something new and to explore the world. The tiniest babies developed sound and rhythm skills at super popular "Sing with your baby" programs led by Wendy Plummer. Pre-school children built sequencing and reading skills by listening to stories read aloud by library staff. Chess Clubs for kids developed critical thinking and strategy. Crafts and animal lore workshops provided opportunities for motor skill enhancement. Author Norton Juster talked with children about how books come to life while signing copies of his books. Summer Reading Clubs added an online option for kids to share opinions about books.

The Children's Music Series featured old Yiddish favorites with the band Klezamir, young musicians playing classical compositions led by Catalina Arrubla, nationally known children's performer Bill Schontz singing and playing the didgeridoo, a collection of multi-cultural puppet tales enacted by Jonathan Keezing, original rock music for kids by the Pop Rockets, and a very special performance by local favorites singer-songwriters Nerissa and Katryna Nields. This outstanding free performance series would not be possible with the support of the Amherst Cultural

Council and the Friends of the Jones Library System. Children's theater, magic shows, Harry Potter Camp and more—Town Libraries made learning a year-round, fun experience.

Learning from the Past

Researchers explored life in Amherst by using unique materials in the Jones Library Special Collections Department. For example, youngsters from Mark's Meadow School and the Smith College campus school learned about Amherst history. Groups of college students from Amherst College, Kean College, Lee University, and the University of Michigan spent time studying poets Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost. Seniors expanded their knowledge of New England literature in a seminar sponsored by Elder Hostel.

Special Collections accepted the papers of the Garden Club of Amherst back to 1915 as well as the records of the Fiber Arts Center that closed during the year. Nineteenth century editions of text books used at Amherst Academy were acquired for the Clifton Johnson Collection for future study by Dickinson scholars. The Robert Francis Trust donated eye glasses, awards, and personal items owned by the Amherst poet. Dorothy Ives donated three manuscript collections of South Amherst memories. Dozens of wonderful donors helped preserve Amherst history by bringing in rare photographs, architectural drawings, and historical publications.

English as a Second Language Center Supports Success

Eighty ESL Center students and their volunteer tutors tackled language and literacy problems in order to meet personal goals. The story of ESL student Hang Lim was featured in the February 6, 2008 issue of the *Daily Hampshire Gazette*. Unable to read or write when she arrived in Amherst from a remote village in Cambodia, Hang Lim was a single working mother with six children. Through diligent effort and support from her tutor and ESL Center Coordinator Lynne Weintraub, Hang Lim became literate in English, and in 2008 she celebrated reaching her goal of becoming a U.S. Citizen. This remarkable story, years in the making, is living proof of the power of learning at the library.

If public taxes paid 75% of Library expenses, where does the rest come from?

Who sponsors most of the Libraries' free educational and cultural events? The Friends of the Jones Library System! The Friends hosted the 13th Annual Library Legislative Breakfast at Jones Library. State Senator Stan Rosenberg, Representatives Ellen Story, John Scibak and Stephen Kulik discussed state funding for library services with library supporters. Proceeds from Friends memberships, the annual Book and Chocolate Basket auction, and the Annual "Best of Books" Book Sale -- all go to sponsor the Summer Reading Clubs, new library equipment, museum discount passes, and public outreach. The "Beds for Books" hospitality program exchanged overnight accommodations in local homes for a total of \$7,430 donated for new library books.

The Annual Fund Drive raised \$58,078.45 which will be used to purchase new library materials and to keep the Jones Library open on Monday afternoons in FY 2009. In particular, the Library wishes to thank the Xeric Foundation, Jeannine Atkins and Peter Laird and the anonymous donor of a challenge grant handled by the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts. In addition, the Town Libraries appreciate the very generous support of Mary Ellen Barden, Mary Catherine Phinney, A.M. Treston, Charles Johnson, Robert Winne and Patricia Holland, and George and Ann Levinger and 690 additional donors to the Fund Drive.

North Amherst Library thanks the Harp Irish Pub for their financial support. ACTV donated DVD recording equipment to update VHS tapes in Special Collections. Realtors from Jones Town and

Country Realtors sponsored children's programs. The ESL Center received grants from the Amherst Club, the Cherwatti Foundation, and the Amherst Woman's Club.

The Library Trustees gratefully accepted bequests from Thelma J. Isaacs to support Jones Library and Munson Memorial Library and from George E. Nichols, III, to help with cataloging expenses. Library Memorial Funds honored William L. Holland, a long time supporter of the North Amherst Library, and Dr. Vera Joseph Peterson, Library Trustee, 1975-1987.

Jones Library, Inc. Endowment. Vanguard Group Asset Management Services reports the market value of the Jones Library, Inc. Endowment Fund at \$8,448,423 on June 30, 2008.

Library Trustees

Merrylees (Molly) Turner, President Kathleen Wang, Vice President Patricia Holland, Treasurer Chris Hoffmann, Assistant Treasurer Ann Grose, Clerk Louis Greenbaum, Trustee

Library Staff

Bonnie Isman, Library Director Sondra Radosh, Asst. Director & Children's Librarian

Amy Anaya, Head of Circulation Services Beth Girshman, Adult Services Librarian Susan Hugus, Munson Memorial Librarian Rosemary Loomis, Head of Reference Tevis Kimball, Curator of Special Collections

Carolyn Platt, Head of Technical Services
Janet Ryan, Reference Librarian
Maggie Spiegel, North Amherst Librarian
Lynne Weintraub, ESL Coordinator
Henry Allan, Computer Technician
Tina Swift, Administrative Assistant
Chris White, Cataloging Technician
George Hicks, Building Supervisor
Kate Boyle, Special Collections Assistant
Silvia Brinkerhoff, Children's Library
Assistant

Miguel Otero, Assistant Custodian
Colin Faith, Assistant Custodian
Seth Rothberg, Asst. Circulation Supervisor
Lace Stokes, Sunday Supervisor
Cathy Verts, Audiovisual Technician
Theresa Atteridge, Library Assistant
Bryan Grabigel, Office
Clerk/Receptionist
Ralph Hurwitz, AV Assistant
Judy Lincoln, Library Assistant
Joan Pyfrom, Cataloging Assistant
Tomi Eve, Library Assistant

PART-TIME STAFF: Cynthia Backlund, Abigail Baines, Patrick Borezo, Roxanne Brown-Boyd, Nathan Cartel, Laura Castano-Longey, Lucy Chen, Erin Daly, Jennifer Ditkoff, Janice Doyama, Kira Eve, Melissa Flynn, Sean Flynn, Jessica Fortin, Julie Gilfeather, Tara Herzig, Frances Holt, Jean Holden, Karen Kowles, Jessica Lamson, Robin Levine, Sheila McCormick, Susan McCoy, Barbara McGlynn, Wanda Meck, Jill Palmer, Lindsay Palmer, Jose Paredes, Lisa Slocum, Valerie Steinberg, Corinna Stokes, Rachel, Valitt, Mary Weidensaul, Megan White.

Special Thanks to the FRIENDS OF THE JONES LIBRARY SYSTEM!

Officers:

Bonnie Vigeland, President Mike Giles, Vice President Sterling Bush, Secretary Kathy Caputo, Treasurer

Katie George, Basket Auction Chair

Edith Byron, Membership

Directors:

Jim Ellis

Ellen Goodwin George Goodwin

Joanne Hall Patricia Hare Chris Hoffmann Doris Holden Lewis Mainzer Joan Milam Dorothy Morse Conrad Wogrin Nancy Wise Beds for Books: Sandra Mullin Barbara Ford

FY 2008 TOWN LIBRARIES AT A GLANCE

Library Checkouts - FY 2008		
TOTAL	542,208	
Jones Library	423,383	
Munson Memorial	38,465	
North Amherst	37,298	
Sent to other libraries	43,062	
for checkout		

Reference and Research Assistance FY 2008 In person, by telephone and email		
TOTAL	42,256	
Jones – Adults	21,749	
Jones – Kids	7,735	
Special Collections	3,178	
Branch Libraries	8,736	
ESL Center	858	

Cataloged Collections Available		
June 30, 2008		
Books	209,309	
Audio & Visual Items	24,450	
Electronic & Other	721	
Materials		
Purchased in FY 2007	10,432	
Donations added	1,498	
Items Withdrawn in FY	11,914	
2008		

Amherst Residents with C/W MARS cards June 30, 2008		
Adults	19,816	
Children, 4 to 13 yrs.	1,821	
New borrowers registered in	2,281	
FY 2007		

Computer Sign-ups FY 2008		
TOTAL	44,659	
Jones - Reference	40,041	
Jones – Kids	2,148	
Special Collections	188	
Branch Libraries	2,282	

Events and Public Meetings FY 2008		
TOTAL	733	
All library events for adults	143	
All library events for kids	195	
Public meetings and events	395	

OLIVER SMITH WILL/SMITH CHARITIES

Fiscal Year 2008

The Elector for the Oliver Smith Will is elected in the Annual Town Election to represent Amherst on the Board of Electors of Smith Charities. Other electors are selected by the voters of Deerfield, Easthampton, Greenfield, Hadley, Hatfield, Northampton, Whately, and Williamsburg. Smith Charities, established in 1848, annually provides gifts of \$300 for widows with children under the age of eighteen, a one-time gift of \$100 for brides, and \$600 for tradespersons, nurses, and licensed practical nurses. Additional monies may be disbursed to the trade and nurse categories as determined by the Trustees. Certain requirements such as residence and age apply. The Smith Charities office is in Northampton at 51 Main Street.

TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF AMHERST

During Smith Charities' fiscal year, February 1, 2008 – January 31, 2009, the following applicants from Amherst were paid as beneficiaries under the Oliver Smith Will:

3 Widows received a gift, totaling \$1,000

1 Nurse (RN) received a gift of \$600 plus an additional distribution of \$700, totaling \$1,300

1 Nurse (LPN) received the additional distribution of \$700

Total Amherst beneficiaries: \$3,000

John Coull, Elector Under the Oliver Smith Will

PLANNING BOARD & PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2008

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the land use, planning, and zoning activities of the Planning Board and Planning Department during Fiscal Year 2008. In FY 08, the Planning Department also provided principal staff support for the Zoning Board of Appeals, Design Review Board, Historical Commission, Town/Commercial Relations Committee, Comprehensive Planning Committee, and Redevelopment Authority — see also those bodies' annual reports for FY 08.

CURRENT PLANNING

As in previous years, development issues, permit applications, and Master Plan efforts occupied much of the time of the Board and Department during FY 08

Table 1 provides a statistical review of the Department's activities, including the various permits it oversees, and zoning and other regulatory changes.

Table 1 Planning Board Land Use & Zoning Activity

A.	Review & Action	# of Applications
1.	Planning Board Special Permits	0
2.	Form A (Approval Not Required) Subdivisions	11
3.	Cluster Subdivision	1
4.	Standard Subdivision	0
5.	Subdivision Amendments	2
6.	Subdivision Lot Releases	9
7.	Subdivision/Site Plan Escrow Releases	0
8.	Street Name Changes	0
9.	Development Authorization Requests	1
10.	Site Plan Review Requests	7
11.	Sign Plans Approved	2
12.	Lighting Plans Approved	0
13.	Landscape Plans Approved	2
14.	Scenic Road Requests	0
15.	Ch. 61 Removal Requests	1
16.	Ch. 61A Removal Requests	4

B. Review & Recommendation

Zoning Amendments	19
Rules & Regulations Amendments	0
Special Permits/Variances	35
Street Acceptances	0
Street Discontinuances	0
	Rules & Regulations Amendments Special Permits/Variances Street Acceptances

Some of the more significant planning development proposals and issues of FY 08 included the following:

Commercial/Institutional

- * New farmstand and parking area on Belchertown Road (former fairgrounds property)
- * A 3-story climate-controlled storage building at Amherst Enterprise Park on Meadow Street
- * A 2-story woodframe commercial office building at Amherst Enterprise Park on Meadow Street
- * Construction of an emergency access drive and landscape improvements for the National Yiddish Book Center off of West Street
- * Renovation by Amherst College of the historic Scott House at the corner of South Pleasant and Hitchcock Streets as part of an new office alumni development office
- * Renovation and expansion by Amherst College of the Hitchcock House residence hall on Sellen and South Prospect Streets.

Residential

- * A request to amend the conditions of the Moody Field cluster subdivision in order to waive the requirement for a cul-de-sac streetlight
- * An appearance by representatives of Hampshire College concerning a 125-unit condominium project in the ED District off West Street
- * Lot releases for home building in the Amherst Hills and Lawrence Circle subdivisions.

Zoning Issues

- * Responded to a property owner request to rezone 500 and 502 Sunderland Road from R-O and R-LD to R-VC, in order to allow better residential use of a site severely limited by wetlands. Dismissed by the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting Article 18), and then defeated by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 26).
- * To amend and clarify regulations governing office development in the Professional Research Park (PRP) district and make several associated amendments. This article and a competing citizen petition article both dismissed by the regular session of the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting (Planning Board Article 13 & Coalition for Sustainable Neighborhoods Article 14, 11-19-07). A compromise version was adopted by a special session of the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting (Article 1, 11-28-07).

- * To amend the permitting requirements and standards and conditions for three use categories: research and development, light manufacturing, and manufacturing, in order to facilitate these uses. Adopted by the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting (Articles 11 & 12).
- * To add a Research Development (R&D) Overlay District to the west side of University Drive between Amity Street and Northampton Road, in order to allow research and development uses in the B-L District in that location by right through Site Plan Review approval. Adopted by the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting (Article 10).
- * To amend Section 5.07, permitting light manufacturing of prototypes as an accessory use to research and development use in various zoning districts. Adopted by the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting (Article 11).
- * Responded to a citizen petition to rezone properties along South East Street south of the intersection with College Street, an 'alternative' response to a proposal for rezoning these properties by the Planning Board. Dismissed by the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting (Coalition for Sustainable Neighborhoods, Article 17).
- * Added amendments to Article 4, Development Methods, of the Zoning Bylaw to make the methods for calculating residential density consistent between development methods and to allow for 'rounding up' in that calculation when there was a fractional result. Adopted by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 25).
- * To convert the "Municipal Parking Zone", which existed only as language in the Zoning Bylaw, to a formal overlay zoning district (Municipal Parking District) appearing on the official Zoning Map, and adjust and modernize its regulations. Adopted by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 27).
- * To convert the two overlapping downtown jurisdictions of the Design Review Board into formal overall zoning districts appearing on the official Zoning Map, and to adjust and modernize the associated regulations. Adopted by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 28).
- * Responded to a citizen petition to adjust the regulation of residential commercial development on the basis of steep slopes. Referred to the Planning Board by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 29).
- * Responded to a citizen petition to make specific changes in the zoning in the vicinity of the Amherst Depot on Main, Dickinson, and High Streets, in an attempt to direct the nature of ongoing development of such amendments by the Planning Board. Unanimously referred back to the Planning Board by the Fall 2007 Special Town Meeting (Coalition for Sustainable Neighborhoods, Article 19)
- * Responded to another citizen petition to make specific changes in the zoning in the vicinity of the Amherst Depot on Main, Dickinson, and High Streets, in an attempt to direct the nature of ongoing development of such amendments by the Planning Board. Unanimously referred back to the Planning Board by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 32).

Responded to a citizen petition to amend the inclusionary zoning provisions of the Zoning Bylaw to: 1) mandate that affordable units meet the state criteria for recognition on the Subsidized Housing Inventory under MGL Ch. 40B (Comprehensive Permit) in specific ways, 2) mandate accessible 'visitability' in new housing, 3) require the provision (or payment in lieu of provision) of recreational facilities in specific amounts for new housing, and 4) make assorted technical improvements in existing language. Elements of a compromise version developed by planning staff and the petitioner were variously or, by mutual agreement, referred back to the Planning Board by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting. More specifically, the citizen petition to amend the Inclusionary Zoning section of the Zoning Bylaw to require that affordable units provided by Inclusionary Zoning be countable under M.G.L. 40B, to require increased visitability, and to require that recreational facilities be provided in new residential development was unanimously referred to the Planning Board and Leisure Services by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 30). The Planning Board-developed alternative to Article 30, to amend the Inclusionary Zoning section of the Zoning Bylaw to accomplish goals similar to those expressed in Article 30: to require that 49% of affordable units provided by Inclusionary Zoning be countable under M.G.L. 40B, and to require increased visitability, but not including provisions regarding recreational facilities from Article 30 (with an understanding that the petitioner intended that these provisions be referred back to the Planning Board for further study), had the sections of the Article incorporating the technical changes and the 40B countability provisions adopted by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting, and to the section on visitability was referred to the Planning Board and to the Disability Access Advisory Committee by the 2008 Annual Town Meeting (Article 31).

MASTER/COMMUNITY PLANNING

Efforts continued on a number of long-range planning issues, while new issues and projects also involved the time and attention of the Board and Department.

Master Plan

See also the annual report of the Comprehensive Planning Committee.

Planning Board members and Planning Department staff assisted the Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC), its Master Plan Review Subcommittee, and the consulting firm of ACP, Inc. in developing and refining the draft Master Plan document resulting from the two year Planning Amherst Together master planning process. The draft Plan was submitted by ACP, Inc. in February 2008 and the process of refinement was thereafter undertaken by the Subcommittee. At the end of FY 08, some editing and review remained to be completed, with the goal of submitting a completed draft Master Plan to the Planning Board for final review and adoption in FY 09.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

During FY 08, the Planning Department continued to work with the Community Services Department and other Town departments, boards, and committees to develop project proposals, and to prepare and review related potential CDBG projects.

Downtown

In FY 08, the Planning Department continued to be involved in numerous aspects of downtown revitalization, including parking, public open space, historical issues, and public projects.

Architect and designer Anita Licis served as the Planning Board's representative to the Design Review Board (DRB), which reviews most exterior changes in downtown buildings and sites, and on Town projects. See also the annual report of the DRB.

The multi-year streetscape redesign and reconstruction of downtown sidewalks continued. The Planning Department assisted the Department of Public Works with development of designs for new sidewalk improvements on Amity Street and the west side of North Pleasant Street between Amity Street and the St. Brigid's parsonage driveway. The Department worked with the Tree Warden, Public Shade Tree Committee and others on downtown street tree issues and the development of designs for streetscape improvements in other areas.

Housing

The Planning Department worked with the Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee (HP/FHC) Amherst Housing Authority (AHA), and the Community Preservation Act Committee to develop and pursue a number of projects to protect existing affordable housing units and provide for the creation of new affordable units. Pre-development analyses and examination of alternative approaches to affordable housing development at Olympia Drive continued in FY 08. Permitting issues with the Main Street project were addressed. Planning staff and the Planning Board's Zoning Subcommittee continued to research and further develop amendments to the Zoning Bylaw to encourage affordability in new residential development.

Historic Preservation

Using the 2005 <u>Amherst Preservation Plan</u>, the Historical Commission worked with Planning Department staff to develop proposals for historic preservation projects using CPA funds. The 2008 Annual Town Meeting appropriated a total of \$135,400 in CPA funds for historic preservation projects.

The Historical Commission completed an historic study of the East Village Common, as well as preliminary work on expanding the East Village National Historic Register District, working with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's historic preservation planner, Bonnie Parsons.

In FY 08, among other projects, the Planning Department and Historical Commission were involved in efforts to acquire as an historic landscape park two Main Street lots on the frontage of the historic Henry Hills mansion.

See also the annual report of the Historical Commission.

Atkins Corner

During FY 08, the Planning Department continued to work with DPW on issues involved with redesign of the intersection and road system in this proposed new village center. The Department also met with representatives of the Applewood living care community and the

condominium associations in the Hampshire Village PURD, to discuss how new village center zoning could meet the needs of those organizations.

STAFF ASSISTANCE

Planning Department staff provide professional support and technical assistance to numerous Town boards and committees, local and regional boards, as well as Amherst citizens, community groups, other communities, and others. The Town boards and committees directly served by the Planning Department in FY 08 included:

Planning Board

Zoning Subcommittee

Design Review Board

Zoning Board of Appeals

Historical Commission

Town/Commercial Relations Committee

Comprehensive Planning Committee

Redevelopment Authority

Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee

250th Anniversary Committee (Arts & Literature Subcommittee, History Subcommittee, etc.)

UMass/Hadley/Amherst economic development dialogue

UMass Campus planning effort

Other committees or bodies for whom the Planning Department provides more occasional assistance include:

- Public Transportation Committee & Bicycle Subcommittee
- Disabilities Access Advisory Committee
- Public Art Commission
- Community Preservation Act Committee
- Public Shade Tree Committee
- Greater Franklin County Economic Development Strategy Committee
- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
- Valley Development Council (PVPC-sponsored body)
- Summit Land Use Task Force
- Amherst Regional Chamber of Commerce

PLANNING BOARD

During FY 08, new Planning Board members Denise Barberet, Jonathan O'Keeffe, Ludmilla Pavlova-Gilham, and Susan Pynchon were appointed.

Planning Board members took advantage of training opportunities sponsored by the Citizen Planner Training Collaborative and training from Town Counsel.

At the end of FY 08, the Planning Board had seven members: Aaron Hayden (Chair), Jonathan Shefftz (Vice Chair), Susan Pynchon (Clerk), Kathleen Anderson, Denise Barberet, Richard Howland, Jonathan O'Keeffe, and Eduardo Suarez, with one vacancy.

PLANNING STAFF

During FY 08, Planning Department staff members were extensively involved in public outreach, including presentations to a number of community groups. Jonathan Tucker continued to serve as Planning Director, completing his 23nd year with the Department. After eleven and a half years with the department, Senior Planner Niels la Cour resigned to take a position with the University of Massachusetts Facilities Planning office. Among other projects, Mr. la Cour had served as main staff support for the creation of an updated Master Plan from the inception of the Comprehensive Planning committee (in August 1997). Other Planning Department staff included Senior Planner Christine Brestrup, part-time Zoning Assistant Carolyn Holstein, and Management Assistant Sue Krzanowski, who completed her 20th year with the Planning Department.

During FY 08, the Planning Department Intern was Nathaniel Malloy, a graduate student at the UMass Dept. of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning. Mr. Malloy was involved in many community planning projects, particularly the master planning process, and contributed significantly to improved use of the GIS computer mapping system, to the updating of permit applications and forms, and to the publication of Planning Briefs, the Department quarterly newsletter.

The vacant Associate Planner and Senior Planner positions will be filled in FY 09.

Jonathan Tucker Planning Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2008

Message from the Chief

The Amherst Police Department has continued to use innovative ideas to curtail the everincreasing cost of doing business while continuing to provide the community with the programs that maintain good relationships with its members.

Technology improvements during the past year have been a big help in filling the financial gap. We have begun to change our way of doing business. We became the first police department in the Commonwealth to utilize Internet technology to accept crime reports online. Our new *Online Incident Report System* that is accessed via our website www.amherstpd.org allows citizens to report minor crimes and neighborhood complaints, such as speeding issues, via the web. Reports are reviewed by officers and are investigated fully, as staffing allows. This service is valuable because it allows us to have our officers available to respond to more critical, life-threatening incidents. It also decreases the burden on our Records Office staff, as reports generated are emailed to citizens. Citizens benefit from this system as they are able to report crimes and concerns on their schedule and don't have to wait for an officer to respond to their home. Allowing citizens to receive their reports via email also saves the citizens from having to come to our Records Office to get copies of reports. This valuable system was purchased entirely with grant funding.

The Amherst Police Department, through its trained officers, has offered programs that maintain communication with its residents. Programs that have been offered through grants have allowed us to deliver education seminars for all members of this community. Within the past year we have offered *Identity Theft* training for the members of our senior citizen community. This is a crime that many seniors have fallen victim to, and we have worked hard at educating community members on ways to protect their assets. We also continue to offer our *Rape Aggression Defense Training* (RAD) by offering classes to the community. During the past year, this important course was also brought to the Amherst Regional High School as part of their physical education curriculum, allowing our officers to reach the younger generation of our citizens, a segment often overlooked.

Our Bicycle Patrol conducted numerous safety events, including a *Pedal With Police Night*, where officers taught our younger citizens bicycle safety. The Bicycle Patrol also partnered with the Wildwood School and MassBike to establish a *Safety Routes to School* program, providing insight on ways to encourage students to bicycle to school. The spring Bicycle Rodeo at Wildwood School was a very successful event as well. Additionally, at several events in apartment complexes throughout Amherst, we distributed free bicycle helmets to children in need. Grant money has allowed the Department to continue to offer these valuable programs to Amherst citizens.

In order to maintain our everlasting battle with motor vehicle violators, public intoxication and noise disturbances, we have been fortunate to acquire state grants that allow us to hire additional help without compromising our budget. These programs include *Cops In Shops*, where officers pose as liquor store clerks to deter underage persons from purchasing alcohol. This partnership with our business owners has been very successful. The nationally recognized motor vehicle

safety programs that we conducted this past year, *You Drink You Drive You Lose* and *Click It or Ticket It* have contributed to yet another year during which Amherst did not have a motor vehicle fatality. Recently, our Department received an award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving for our aggressive enforcement of drunk driving laws. We were one of only ten police departments in the Commonwealth to receive grant funding to address underage and public drinking. We used this grant funding to aggressively enforce overcrowded parties, the Open Container Bylaw and Keg Bylaw.

With our budget restrictions we are struggling, but we will survive because this is the Amherst Police Department and we are dedicated to this community.

Charles L. Scherpa Chief of Police

POLICE PERSONNEL CHANGES JULY 1 2007 – JUNE 30, 2008

RESIGNATIONS:

Sworn Police Officers

Ryan N. Tellier

December 10, 2007

Civilian Personnel

Maryann C. Rocha
July 31, 2007

Jennifer M. Guzik
December 31, 2007

Christine E. Brunelle
January 27, 2008

Brian J. Greaney
June 2, 2008

RETIRED:

Sworn Police Officers
Gary W. Guzik
August 3, 2007
Timothy M. Sullivan
January 1, 2008

Civilian Personnel
Willie J. Wheeler
November 9, 2007

NEW HIREES:

Sworn Police Officers
Hunter J. Guiles
December 3, 2007
Matthew R. Frydryk
Noah A. Clock
May 5, 2008

Civilian Personnel
Michele A. Matuszko
December 31, 2007
Whitney P. Suter
March 17, 2008
Frederick L. King
June 17, 2008
Maria L. Ronghi
June 23, 2008

PROMOTION:

Sworn Police Officers
Scott P. Livingstone February 11, 2008

Amherst Police Department Detective Bureau

Fiscal Year 2008

The detective bureau is under the command of Lieutenant Ronald A. Young. It is staffed by Sergeant Christopher P. Pronovost, Detective Christina B. Knightly, Detective David W. Foster, Detective Gabriel Ting, Detective Gregory Wise, Detective Brian T. Johnson, Detective James Damouras, and Detective Janet M. Lopez.

The mission and focus of the detective bureau is support of the patrol force, case management, evidence control and handling, court procedure and prosecution, and crime scene assessment. Major cases are handled within this unit, to include property crimes, robbery, narcotics violations, and crimes against people. Child abuse cases and sexual assaults are primarily handled by detectives assigned to this unit, to include case management for registered sex offenders.

As part of the Court function, Detective Lopez oversees case tracking and disposition, discovery requests by the Court, diversionary sentences, and community service programs. Detective Foster handles similar actions in the juvenile Court as well as acting as a point of contact for the school department, the Department of Youth Services, and the Department of Social Services.

This last fiscal year was an active one for detectives. It began with a bank robbery in early July. Several serious assaults were committed over the coming year, as well as a rise in residential burglaries. A total of 162 people were charged through arrest, summons, or indictment with a total of 221 crimes.

Ronald A. Young Lieutenant

FISCAL YEAR 2008 -- 28,049 responding officers to 18,359 Calls for Service

CALL TYPE	# CALLS	# OF
200 4	261	RESPONDERS
209 A	361	403
911 Hang Up	208	344
Admin Duty	386	464
Animal Admin Services	59 463	59
Animal Complaint	462	619
Annoying Call(s) Assault	65	69
Assist A F D	63 172	150 358
	771	956
Assist Business/Agency Assist Citizen	686	888
Assist Motorist	36	42
Assist Motorist Assist Other P D	284	421
B & E	141	262
B & E M V	141	176
Bank / A T M Alarm	50	104
Child Abuse	3	3
Citizen Transport	261	270
Civil Complaint	11	11
Commercial Alarm	476	1,027
Community Policing	279	429
Disabled Motor Vehicle	386	470
Disturbance	469	1,240
Domestic	190	536
Drug Law Violation	32	79
Escort	246	342
Fight	108	407
Follow Up	854	1,001
Forgery / Counterfeit	2	2
Fraud	20	20
House Check	132	135
Larceny	305	369
Liquor I D Check	49	100
Liquor Law Violation	260	489
Located Person	11	12
Lock Up Incident	1	1
M V Complaint	203	291
M V Crash P D	869	1,195
M V Crash P I	127	368
M V Pursuit	1	6
M V Stop	1,173	1,572
Medical / Mental	96	258
Medical Assist	491	744
Missing Person	25	32
Missing Property	87	90
Noise Complaint	1,066	2,471

Open Door/Window	753	849
Parking Ban	99	103
PERMITS	75	81
Prisoner Monitor/Booking	82	95
Prisoner Transport	178	208
Private / Trespass Tow	6	8
Prop/Evid Admin	144	181
Protective Custody	7	15
Rape	9	11
Recovered M V	27	29
Recovered Property	393	403
Residential Alarm	177	356
Robbery	4	19
Security Check	536	639
Sex Offense	13	13
Shoplifting	36	74
Stolen M V	31	51
Summons Service	407	413
Suspicious	888	1,643
Suspicious Motor Vehicle	427	601
T B L Violation	75	87
Traffic	735	1,013
Traffic Enforcement	216	233
Traffic Monitor	17	17
Trespass	48	76
Unattended Death	11	49
Vandalism	346	453
Warrant Service	137	342
Well Being Check	364	702

During FY 08 the Amherst Police Department wrote 660 criminal offense reports, documenting 987 separate crimes that occurred. Below is a summation of the crimes that were reported that required an incident report be generated.

TYPE OF CRIME REPORTED

A 0-D	40
A&B A&B ON CHILD WITH INJURY	49
A&B WITH DANGEROUS WEAPON	1 21
A&B, Pregnant Person ABUSE PREVENTION ORDER, VIOLATE	1 9
•	1
ACCOST/ANNOY PERSON OF OPPOSITE SEX	
ALCOHOL IN MV, POSSESS OPEN CONTAINER OF	1
ASSAULT	6
ASSAULT & BATTERY - Serious Bodily Injury	8
ASSAULT TO RAPE	1
ASSAULT TO ROB, UNARMED	1
ASSAULT W/DANGEROUS WEAPON	7
ATTEMPT TO COMMIT CRIME	3
B&E DAYTIME FOR FELONY	47
B&E FOR MISDEMEANOR	35
B&E NIGHTTIME FOR FELONY	164
BOMB THREAT, FALSE	1
BREAK INTO DEPOSITORY	1
BUILDING, VANDALIZE	1
BURGLARIOUS INSTRUMENT, POSSESS	1
BURGLARY, UNARMED	5
CHILD 5-12 WITHOUT SEAT BELT	1
CHILD ABUSE, MANDATED REPORTER FL REPORT	2
CREDIT CARD FRAUD OVER \$250	4
CREDIT CARD FRAUD UNDER \$250	5
CREDIT CARD, FORGE OR UTTER FORGED	1
CREDIT CARD, IMPROPER USE OVER \$250	2
CREDIT CARD, IMPROPER USE UNDER \$250	3
CREDIT CARD, LARCENY OF	4
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY +\$250, MALICIOUS	28
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY +\$250, WANTON	15
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY +\$250,WANTON	1
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY -\$250, MALICIOUS	15
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY -\$250, WANTON	15
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY -\$250,MALICIOUS	1
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY -\$250,WANTON	10
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	4
DISTURBANCE	1
DISTURBING THE PEACE	1
DRUG VIOLATION NEAR SCHOOL/PARK	1
DRUG, DISTRIBUTE CLASS D	1

DRUG, LARCENY OF	1
DRUG, POSSESS / CULTIVATE TO DISTRIB CLASS D	3
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS A	1
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS D	6
DRUG, POSSESS TO DISTRIB CLASS B	2
FIREARM, LARCENY OF	2
FIREWORKS, POSSESS UNLAWFUL	1
FORGERY OF CHECK	4
HARASSING PHONE CALL	3
HARASSMENT, CRIMINAL	1
HOME INVASION	1
HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT	1
IDENTITY FRAUD	6
IDENTITY THEFT	6
IMPROPER OPERATION OF MV, ALLOW	1
INDECENT A&B ON CHILD UNDER 14	4
INDECENT A&B ON PERSON 14 OR OVER	3
KIDNAPPING	1
LARCENY BY CHECK OVER \$250	6
LARCENY BY CHECK UNDER \$250	4
LARCENY FROM BUILDING	4
LARCENY FROM PERSON	2
LARCENY OVER \$250	171
LARCENY OVER \$250 BY SINGLE SCHEME	4
LARCENY UNDER \$250	110
LARCENY UNDER \$250 FROM +60/DISABLED	1
LEAVE SCENE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE	2
LEAVING ACCIDENT SCENE AFTER PROPERTY DAMAGE	8
LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 POSSESS	2
LOST PROPERTY	9
MARKED LANES VIOLATION	$\overset{\circ}{2}$
MAYHEM	1
MOTOR VEH THIEF, CONCEAL	1
MOTOR VEH THILL, CONCEAR MOTOR VEH, LARCENY OF	29
MOTOR VEH, MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO	9
MOTOR VEH, MIAEICIOUS BAMAGE TO MOTOR VEH, RECEIVE STOLEN	1
MOTOR VEH, RECEIVE STOLEN MOTOR VEH, TAKING & STEALING PARTS	2
NEGLIGENT OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	1
NOTE, UTTER WORTHLESS/FALSE	1
OUI LIQUOR	1
PUBLIC WAY, THROW OBJECT ON	1
RAPE	11
RAPE OF CHILD, STATUTORY	3
RECEIVE STOLEN PROPERTY +\$250	4
RECEIVE STOLEN PROPERTY -\$250	6
RECKLESS OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	1
RESIST ARREST	$\frac{1}{2}$
	1
ROBBERY, ARMED	4
ROBBERY, UNARMED	4

SHOPLIFTING \$100+ BY ASPORTATION	1
SHOPLIFTING \$100+ BY CONCEALING MDSE	1
SHOPLIFTING BY ASPORTATION	1
SHOPLIFTING BY CONCEALING MDSE	6
SHOPLIFTING BY CONCEALING MDSE, 3RD OFF.	1
SLOW, FAIL TO	1
SPEEDING IN VIOL SPECIAL REGULATION	1
STOP FOR POLICE, FAIL	1
TAGGING PROPERTY	8
TBL A2 S3: UNLAWFUL NOISE	10
TBL A24 S4: UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF KEG	6
TELEPHONE CALLS, ANNOYING	4
THREAT TO COMMIT CRIME	3
USE MV WITHOUT AUTHORITY	1
UTTER COUNTERFEIT NOTE	2
UTTER FALSE CHECK	5
VANDALIZE PROPERTY	2
WITNESS INTIMIDATE	3

PERSONS CRIMINALLY CHARGED, FY 2008

ADULTS

Arrested offenders 863 Summonses 458 Protective Custody 25

JUVENILES

Arrested offenders 16 Summonses 37 Protective Custody 0

TOTAL CRIMINAL OFFENSES CHARGED AT TIME OF ARREST FY 2008 1,399 Total arrests with criminal offenses

A&B	90
A&B ON AMBULANCE PERSONNEL	1
A&B ON CHILD WITH INJURY	1
A&B ON POLICE OFFICER	5
A&B WITH DANGEROUS WEAPON	16
A&B, Pregnant Person	4
A7S4 FAILURE TO USE CARE IN STARTING	1
	12
ABUSE PREVENTION ORDER, VIOLATE ACCOST/ANNOY PERSON OF OPPOSITE SEX	
	2
AFTERMARKET LIGHTING, NONCOMPLIANT	1
ALCOHOL IN MV, POSSESS OPEN CONTAINER OF	26
ARRESTED ON WARRANT INITIATED BY OTHER	94
AGENCY	0
ASSAULT	8
ASSAULT & BATTERY - Serious Bodily Injury	11
ASSAULT ON AMBULANCE PERSONNEL	1
ASSAULT W/DANGEROUS WEAPON	7
ATTEMPT TO COMMIT CRIME	9
B&E DAYTIME FOR FELONY	15
B&E FOR MISDEMEANOR	6
B&E NIGHTTIME FOR FELONY	35
BRAKES VIOLATION, MV	2
BURGLARIOUS INSTRUMENT, POSSESS	2
BURGLARY, UNARMED	1
CHILD 5-12 WITHOUT SEAT BELT	1
CIGARETTE/MATCH, DROP ON FOREST/FIELD	1
COCAINE, POSSESS TO DISTRIBUTE	1
CREDIT CARD FRAUD OVER \$250	1
CREDIT CARD FRAUD UNDER \$250	2
CREDIT CARD, IMPROPER USE OVER \$250	2
CREDIT CARD, IMPROPER USE UNDER \$250	1
CREDIT CARD, LARCENY OF	3
CREDIT CARD, RECEIVE STOLEN	2
CROSSWALK VIOLATION	1
DANGEROUS WEAPON, CARRY	4
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY +\$250, MALICIOUS	6
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY +\$250, WANTON	4
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY -\$250, MALICIOUS	7
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY -\$250, WANTON	7
DISGUISE TO OBSTRUCT JUSTICE	1
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	65
DISTURBING THE PEACE	3
DRUG VIOLATION NEAR SCHOOL/PARK	3
DRUG, DISTRIBUTE CLASS D	1
DRUG, POSSESS / CULTIVATE TO DISTRIB CLASS D	11
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS A	2

DRUG, POSSESS CLASS B	24
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS B, SUBSQ.OFF.	3
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS C	7
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS D	118
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS D, SUBSQ.OFF.	9
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS E	2
DRUG, POSSESS TO DISTRIB CLASS B	4
Dangerous Weapon, Possess While Committing Breach of	1
Peace	
EQUIPMENT VIOLATION, MISCELLANEOUS MV	11
FALSE NAME/SSN, ARRESTEE FURNISH	5
FIREARM, LARCENY OF	1
FIREWORKS, POSSESS UNLAWFUL	2
FORGERY OF CHECK	2
FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE ON COURT WARRANT	3
HARASSMENT, CRIMINAL	1
HARSH/OBJECTIONAL NOISE	1
HEADLIGHTS, FAIL DIM	2
HEROIN, POSSESS	1
HEROIN, POSSESS, SUBSQ.OFF.	1
IDENTIFY SELF, MV OPERATOR REFUSE	3
IDENTIFY SELF, REFUSE	3
IDENTITY FRAUD	2
IMPROPER OPERATION OF MV, ALLOW	2
INDECENT EXPOSURE	2
INSPECTION/STICKER, NO	13
JUNIOR OPERATOR OP 12-5 AM W/O PARENT	3
JUNIOR OPERATOR WITH PASSENGER UNDER 18	1
LARCENY BY CHECK OVER \$250	2
LARCENY BY CHECK UNDER \$250	5
LARCENY FROM BUILDING	4
LARCENY FROM PERSON	2
LARCENY OVER \$250	45
LARCENY OVER \$250 BY SINGLE SCHEME	3
LARCENY UNDER \$250	22
LEASED PERSONALTY, FAIL RETURN	1
LEAVE SCENE OF PERSONAL INJURY	3
LEAVE SCENE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE	13
LEWDNESS, OPEN AND GROSS	2
LICENSE NOT IN POSSESSION	10
LICENSE RESTRICTION, OPERATE MV IN VIOL	1
LICENSE REVOKED AS HTO, OPERATE MV WITH	1
LICENSE REVOKED, OPERATE MV WITH	8
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH	47
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH, SUBSQ.OFF	7
LIGHTS VIOLATION	1
LIGHTS VIOLATION, MV	22
LIQUOR ID CARD/LICENSE, FALSE/MISUSE	35
LIQUOR TO PERSON UNDER 21, SELL/DELIVER	29

LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 ATTEMPT PROCURE	1
LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 POSSESS	377
LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 POSSESS, SUBSQ.	9
LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 PROCURE	11
MARIJUANA, POSSESS	2
MARKED LANES VIOLATION	71
MAYHEM	1
MOTOR VEH, LARCENY OF	3
MOTOR VEH, MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO	2
MOTOR VEH, RECEIVE STOLEN	1
MOTOR VEH, RECEIVE STOLEN, SUBSQ.OFF.	1
NAME/ADDRESS CHANGE, FL NOTIFY RMV OF	2
NEGLIGENT OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	11
NUMBER PLATE VIOLATION	11
NUMBER PLATE VIOLATION TO CONCEAL ID	3
OPERATING AFTER REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION	13
OUI DRUGS	1
OUI DRUGS, 2ND OFFENSE	1
OUI LIQUOR	113
OUI LIQUOR, 2ND OFFENSE	9
OUI LIQUOR, 3RD OFFENSE	2
PRESCRIPTION, UTTER FALSE	2
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	33
RECEIVE STOLEN PROPERTY +\$250	16
RECEIVE STOLEN PROPERTY -\$250	6
RECKLESS OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	4
RED/BLUE LIGHT VIOLATION, MV	1
REGISTRATION NOT IN POSSESSION	8
REGISTRATION SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH	6
RESIST ARREST	29
RESTAURANT, DEFRAUD	1
RIGHT TURN ON RED WHERE PROHIBITED	2
RIOT, FAIL DISPERSE	3
ROBBERY, ARMED	2
ROBBERY, UNARMED	2
SCHOOL, DISTURB	5
SEAT BELT, FAIL WEAR	5
SEX OFFENDER FAIL TO REGISTER	1
SHOPLIFTING \$100+ BY ASPORTATION	1
SHOPLIFTING \$100+ BY CONCEALING MDSE	1
SHOPLIFTING BY ASPORTATION	2
SHOPLIFTING BY CONCEALING MDSE	7
SHOPLIFTING BY CONCEALING MDSE, 3RD OFF.	2
•	4
SIGNAL, FAIL TO	
SPEEDING	14
SPEEDING IN VIOL SPECIAL REGULATION	48
STOP FOR POLICE, FAIL	4
STOP/YIELD, FAIL TO	28
TAGGING PROPERTY	1

TBL A2 S3: UNLAWFUL NOISE	137
TBL A2 S6: OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL	213
TBL A24 S4: UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF KEG	17
TBL A7 S3: OBSTRUCT NORMAL TRAFFIC FLOW	1
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/BACKING	3
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/STOPPING	6
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/TURNING	2
TBL A7 S6: RED LIGHT VIOLATION	1
TELEPHONE CALLS, ANNOYING	3
THREAT TO COMMIT CRIME	7
TRASH, LITTER	1
TRASH, LITTER FROM MV	1
TRESPASS	11
TURN, IMPROPER	1
UNINSURED MOTOR VEHICLE	13
UNLICENSED OPERATION OF MV	35
UNREGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLE	4
UNSAFE OPERATION OF MV	2
UTTER COUNTERFEIT NOTE	2
UTTER FALSE CHECK	4
VANDALIZE PROPERTY	1
WITNESS, INTIMIDATE	16
YIELD AT INTERSECTION, FAIL	3

MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES, FY 2008 MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES FY 2008

MV CRASH REPORTED IN PERSON OR BY MAIL	511
MV CRASH INVESTIGATED REQUIRING POLICE REPORTS	771
MV CRASH WITH CITATIONS ISSUED	267
MV CRASH TOTAL CITATIONS ISSUED	334
MV CRASH WITH PERSONAL INJURY	98
MV CRASH TOTAL INJURED PERSONS	148
MV CRASH INVOLVING PEDESTRIANS	8
MV CRASH INVOLVING BICYCLES	13
MV CRASH INVOLVING MOTORCYCLES	8
MV CRASH INVOLVING WHEELCHAIRS	0
MV CRASH WITH FATALITIES	0
MV CRASH WITH HIT AND RUN	75

MOTOR VEHICLE CITATIONS, FY 2008

5,686 Citations Written with a total of 6,739 Violations

Violation totals	
A7S4 FAILURE TO USE CARE IN STARTING	5
ABANDON MV	2
AFTERMARKET LIGHTING, NONCOMPLIANT	2
ALCOHOL IN MV, POSSESS OPEN CONTAINER OF	30
ARRESTED ON WARRANT INITIATED BY OTHER	1
AGENCY	
BRAKES VIOLATION, MV	28
CHILD 5-12 WITHOUT SEAT BELT	4
CHILD UNDER 5 WITHOUT CARSEAT	2
CIGARETTE/MATCH, DROP ON FOREST/FIELD	4
CROSSWALK VIOLATION	25
DRUG, POSSESS / CULTIVATE TO DISTRIB CLASS	2
D	
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS B	3
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS B, SUBSQ.OFF.	1
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS C	1
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS D	22
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS D, SUBSQ.OFF.	3
EMERGENCY VEHICLE, OBSTRUCT	4
EQUIPMENT VIOLATION, MISCELLANEOUS MV	199
EXCESSIVE EXHAUST SMOKE	1
HARSH/OBJECTIONAL NOISE	9
HEADLIGHTS, FAIL DIM	7
IDENTIFY SELF, MV OPERATOR REFUSE	3
IMPROPER OPERATION OF MV, ALLOW	1 420
INSPECTION/STICKER, NO JUNIOR OPERATOR OP 12-5 AM W/O PARENT	_
JUNIOR OPERATOR OF 12-5 AM W/O PARENT JUNIOR OPERATOR WITH PASSENGER UNDER 18	3 5
LEARNERS PERMIT VIOLATION	1
LEAVE SCENE OF PERSONAL INJURY	2
LEAVE SCENE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE	20
LICENSE NOT IN POSSESSION	143
LICENSE REVOKED AS HTO, OPERATE MV WITH	1 13
LICENSE REVOKED, OPERATE MV WITH	9
LICENSE SUSPENDED FOR OUI, OPER MV WITH	1
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH	53
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH, SUBSQ.OFF	8
LIGHTS VIOLATION	3
LIGHTS VIOLATION, MV	753
LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 POSSESS	9
LOAD UNSECURED/UNCOVERED	4
MARKED LANES VIOLATION	195
MOPED VIOLATION	1
MOTOR VEH IN FELONY/LARCENY, USE	1

	_
MOTORCYCLE EQUIPMENT VIOLATION	2
NAME/ADDRESS CHANGE, FL NOTIFY RMV OF	11
NEGLIGENT OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	12
NUMBER PLATE VIOLATION	233
NUMBER PLATE VIOLATION TO CONCEAL ID	4
NUMBER PLATE, FAIL RETURN REPOSSESSED MV	1
OPERATING AFTER REVOCATION OF	22
REGISTRATION	
OUI DRUGS	1
OUI DRUGS, 2ND OFFENSE	1
OUI LIQUOR	109
OUI LIQUOR, 2ND OFFENSE	9
OUI LIQUOR, 3RD OFFENSE	1
PARKING TICKETS, +5 UNPAID	1
PASSING OVER RESTRICTIVE MARKINGS	7
PASSING VIOLATION	5
PASSING, FAIL TO USE CARE	4
RACING MOTOR VEHICLE	1
RAILROAD CROSSING VIOLATION	2
RECKLESS OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	4
RED/BLUE LIGHT VIOLATION, MV	2
REGISTRATION NOT IN POSSESSION	91
REGISTRATION STICKER MISSING	2
REGISTRATION SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH	7
RIGHT LANE, FAIL DRIVE IN	2
RIGHT TURN ON RED WHERE PROHIBITED	47
SAFETY STANDARDS, MV NOT MEETING RMV	16
SCHOOL BUS INSPECTION, FAIL PERFORM POST-	2
TRIP	2
	2
SCHOOL BUS OPERATION/EQUIPMENT VIOL	2
SCHOOL BUS, FAIL STOP FOR	3
SEAT BELT, FAIL WEAR	165
SIGN, FAILURE TO OBEY DPW TRAFFIC	1
SIGNAL, FAIL TO	22
SLOW, FAIL TO	8
SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS VEH FL ID OWNER	4
SPEEDING	1,658
SPEEDING IN VIOL SPECIAL REGULATION	
	1,226
STATE HWAY TRAFFIC VIOLATION	2
STOP FOR POLICE, FAIL	5
STOP/YIELD, FAIL TO	503
TBL A5 S1: ONE WAY STREET VIOLATION	12
TBL A7 S2: FAIL TO GIVE WAY WHEN MV	3
PASSING	
TBL A7 S3: OBSTRUCT NORMAL TRAFFIC FLOW	1
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/BACKING	26
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/STARTING	38
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/STOPPING	129
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/TURNING	60

TBL A7 S5: FAIL TO STOP/FLASHING RED LIGHT	2
TBL A7 S5: FAIL TO STOP/STOP SIGN	1
TBL A7 S6: RED LIGHT VIOLATION	2
TIRE TREAD DEPTH VIOLATION	3
TRASH, LITTER FROM MV	1
TURN, IMPROPER	28
UNINSURED MOTOR VEHICLE	22
UNLICENSED OPERATION OF MV	49
UNREGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLE	92
UNSAFE OPERATION OF MV	27
YIELD AT INTERSECTION, FAIL	54

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Fiscal Year 2008

This was a very active year for the Center and one filled with new challenges. Our level of activity continued to increase and our responsibilities expanded. Meanwhile, Dispatchers worked admirably through complete changes to the equipment and method of managing the radio and state 911 phone systems, the building security system and an assortment of computer-based resources.

The renewal of the State Training Grant, supported entirely by the surcharges collected on wireline and wireless phone bills, allowed us access to training opportunities not possible in previous years. Through our aggressive use of these funds we were better able to keep abreast of the ever-changing needs in emergency service and preserve our status as one of the most professional and progressive Centers in western Massachusetts.

In addition to their regularly assigned duties, Dispatchers continued to contribute much time and energy to the Center and the citizens. A Public Safety Education Program was created and we again participated in the Fire Department Open House and the Safety Awareness Fire Education program at the grade schools. Likewise, several Dispatchers worked closely with officers regarding a number of police department initiatives.

The Center was honored to have Dispatchers Carly Kinnas and Jason Rushford selected as Hampshire County Dispatchers of the Year by the Northampton Elks Club. These two were also cited by Hampshire County EMS with a Save Award for their performance while on duty during a swimming pool accident in Amherst in the spring of 2007.

Though we have yet to reach full staffing and vacancies directly result in overtime costs, we were able to stay within our budget for the second consecutive year.

As a member of the work group formed to study the feasibility of consolidating our call taking/dispatch services with the University of Massachusetts and the Town of Hadley, I look forward to continuing the process in the coming year.

In addition to Carly Kinnas and Jason Rushford our staff includes Michael Curtin, Brad Worthley, Elizabeth Chudzik, Jessica Alvaro, Joshua Cicia, Janet Sharp, Scott DelPozzo, and Whitney Suter. Maria Ronghi was recently hired to begin our 12 week training program.

I take pride in working for and with our team of hard working and conscientious dispatch professionals and appreciate the support they have shown me as their supervisor.

Personnel Changes

Hired	Brian Greaney Whitney Suter Maria Ronghi	02/25/08 03/17/08 06/23/08
Resigned	Jennifer Guzik Christine Brunelle Brian Greaney	12/00/07 01/00/08 06/02/08

AMHERST PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

Fiscal Year 2008

Members: Sylvia Cuomo, Carl Erikson, Harriet Goodwin, Nora Maroulis, Mary S. McCarthy and Terry Rooney (Chair)

The Amherst Public Art Commission continues its mission to bring arts to the public while supporting the role of local artists in our community. This past year, we continued with this work by commissioning Briana Taylor, a local artist, to finish the second wall at the entrance of the Boltwood Garage. The focus of this mural highlights the "Architectural Gems" of our town. Viewers can see various Amherst sites, such as elements of the Jones Library, local farms, Amherst Town Hall, the Yiddish Book Center, Amherst College and West Cemetery. Our committee received a grant for \$1,000 to finish the interior columns of the Boltwood Garage in December 2007 which we hope to tie in with the Town's 250th celebration with the completion with the interior and exterior work at the Boltwood Garage. We will be putting out a call for submission in spring '08 with the murals being completed during the summer 2009.

The Amherst Public Art Commission continues its successful Visiting Artist Program, in Amherst Town Hall, now in its 8th year. This year our committee selected four wonderful artists: Marcia Rossi Wise (oil paintings), Anita Licis Ricak (photographs), Keith Hollingworth (mixed media paintings), and Steve Plummer (watercolors). We will be putting out a call for artists this fall for next year's Visiting Artists Program. Each artist and APAC hosts a reception during the Amherst ArtsWalk, which takes place the first Thursday of each month.

We have also started working this year on another project for Amherst 250th called "Shedding Light" a proposal brought forth by architect and local Amherst artist, Erika Zekos which will be a temporary installation of lighting a tobacco barn using "green energy." Our committee is acting as liaison with the artist, a local farmer, UMass, Theatrix and various town agencies under the guidance of Larry Shaffer, to bring this project to fruition in December 2009. This project will highlight the historical, artistic, intellectual, ecological uniqueness of Amherst for this important celebration of our special community.

In our continuing quest to bring art to the public, one of our members, Harriet Goodwin has joined the Kendrick Park Committee in hopes of bringing more public art to downtown.

Amherst Public Art Commission is very grateful for the funding it receives from the Amherst Cultural Council and the support of local businesses and the University of Massachusetts. We are applying for several grants from private and public foundations for the "Shedding Light" project.

APAC currently has \$1,800 in its account with the Amherst Cultural Council and \$207 in the account with the Town Treasurer.

Terry Rooney, Chair

PUBLIC SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

Members: Hope Crolius, Chair; Robert Erwin; William Hutchinson, Secretary; Dennis Ryan; Diana Stein (Select Board Liaison); Otto Stein (Conservation Commission Liaison). Tree Warden: Alan Snow

The Shade Tree Committee enjoyed a year of renewed commitment to drawing the public into becoming aware of the critical role that trees play in the health and beauty of our town. As "green infrastructure," it is this Committee's position that public shade trees deserve equal attention and municipal commitment as roads, public water supplies, and other critical functions (public trees being those that grow along roads and sidewalks, benefiting all, and which fall under the jurisdiction of the Tree Warden under MGL Chapter 87).

The succession of Alan Snow as Tree Warden in the summer of 2007 (following 38 years of service by Stanley Ziomek) is behind this new vigor. One of Mr. Snow's first goals is to completely revise and update the Town Tree Policy. This was achieved, with much input by APSTC members and some worthy "borrowing" from other municipalities' effective tree policies. As of this writing, the Tree Policy is being reviewed by Town Counsel. As it begins to be applied, it is our intention that property owners, Town tree crews, tree care companies, construction companies, and others who tend to and work near public trees are clear that protection of this public resource is a priority. For example, many trees in Amherst are dying quick or drawn-out deaths following construction that cuts into their root systems. There are many ways to prevent this, and a consultation with the Tree Warden prior to the project can do this.

The APSTC has many people to thank for their support over the past, successful year. The new Town Manager Laurence Shaffer has been present at several of our monthly meetings, attended our events, and seems to always have a place on his schedule to talk about ideas. Coming from Keene, New Hampshire, Mr. Shaffer was present in that college city when Keene made an expensive and publicly-supported commitment to "green" its downtown. In May, he organized a roadtrip to Keene for our residents who wanted to see what Amherst could look like with a similar initiative. Conservation Department Administrative Assistant Libby Lass has been invaluable in helping the APSTC with many details, as has Conservation Director David Ziomek. The DPW's Tree Services Director Dan LaFountain showed up on Arbor Day with the bucket lift truck that tree crews go up in and gave rides into the treetops for children. The Amherst Rotary Club donated \$5,000 to plant a variety of species along North Pleasant Street. And several people at UMass and Amherst College have done much to further support of trees by the APSTC.

Still, we are just at the beginning. Although it has been recognized as a TreeCity USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for 21 years, all the work to meet the criteria for this designation has been entirely by volunteers. Amherst has not had a budget for planting new trees (or following up with their care in the critical first three years) for decades. Sadly, Amherst has lost *more than* 1,000 public shade trees since 1998! This figure does not include trees cut down on private land. This is an unsustainable situation, and the solution is to fund and care for "large-maturing" trees that will provide canopy cover for decades to come (as opposed to smaller ornamental trees, which have an important secondary role to play). The FY 08 budget for the tree crew was about \$124,000. It is the hope of this Committee that the budget be expanded so that this hardworking

crew has the time, resources and personnel to devote not only to tree removal, but to watering, mulching, purchasing, and planting young trees.

The budget for this Committee is zero, save for costs of printing information and the valuable time of the Conservation Department. The Tree Warden works as a volunteer. Since assuming the post, Mr. Snow estimates that he puts in approximately 15 hours a week doing hazard tree risk assessments, attending meetings (for projects such as getting UMass designated as a TreeCampus USA, making presentations to the Girl Scouts, and monthly APSTC meetings), serving as liaison to the Kendrick Park Committee, organizing the new Amherst Neighborhood Tree Stewards program. A very rough estimate of volunteer hours by members of the APSTC over the past year is well over 1,000. (In filling out a form for the Massachusetts Tree Wardens Association recently, we learned that this organization's formula is to value volunteer time at \$10 per hour -- which would mean the contribution of Shade Tree Committee members to Amherst would be \$10,000.)

Among the achievements by the APSTC in FY 08 were:

- Arbor Day 2008, on April 27, attended by several hundred people;
- The Amherst Neighborhood Tree Stewards program (ANTS), a group of volunteers to help inventory existing trees and plant and care for new ones;
- The "250 for 250" tree project, in which residents, schools, and organizations are being asked to purchase a young tree and plant it within 20 feet of the public right-of-way. We are selling 250 trees in honor of the town's semiquincentennial;
- Joined the Alliance for Community Trees, a nonprofit that supports shade tree groups around the country;
- Attended an awards ceremony in Wellesley to receive recognition for maintaining TreeCity USA status for 21 years;
- To learn what other towns and cities are doing to expand their "urban forest," Ms. Crolius traveled, in May, to Orlando, Florida, to take part in the 2008 Conference on Urban Ecosystems. She brought back many excellent ideas that are already being implemented all over the country.

Respectfully submitted, Hope Crolius, Chair, Amherst Public Shade Tree Committee

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE (PTBC)

Fiscal Year 2008

In FY 08, the PTBC has been actively involved in transit, pedestrian, and bicycle issues that concern residents of the Town of Amherst. Given the climate change already underway and the economic pressure from gas prices that topped \$4.00 a gallon this year, we believe it is more important than ever to advocate for the safety and convenience of pedestrians, transit riders, and cyclists.

As of July 1, 2007 a Gatehouse Road extension was added to the Belchertown Express Bus. This increased the Gatehouse Road service to seven runs per day while substantially cutting the Town's cost. Ridership in the Echo Hill neighborhood is strong. The schedule for the Route 32 bus (Puffers' Pond-Atkins Corner) was also modified to ensure that the bus arrives on time at stops on the North portion of the loop. Summer Saturday Service continued on this route, and it was well-utilized by residents. The PTBC continued to promote the Route 32, and overall ridership increased 20% in FY 08 over FY 07. Thanks to negotiations by the Town Manager, PVTA contributed several new bus shelters. We recommended installation of shelters, benches and bike racks in Kendrick Park, on University Drive, and on Main Street just north of Aspen Chase. Installation should be completed in FY 09.

The PTBC has worked to increase its responsiveness to the concerns of Amherst residents. We reviewed plans for the reconstruction of University Drive, and recommended the placement of additional crosswalks. We discussed a proposal to put angled parking on N. Pleasant Street downtown and rejected it because of safety concerns for cyclists. A concern was raised at Town Meeting about the safety of the Pomeroy/West Street intersection. We advocated for immediate and longer-term safety improvements, such as painting the crosswalks, adding a pedestrian light, and ADA standard curb cuts. The crosswalks are painted, but this intersection will remain a hazard for pedestrians until the curb-cuts and pedestrian light are completed.

Lastly, this fiscal year ended with the death of our Chair, Frank Wells. His exceptional commitment to transportation issues overshadowed his battle with leukemia for many years, and we recognize his many contributions. Newly elected officers are as follows: Jane Ashby, Chair; Helene Ver Ecke, Vice-chair; Fran Van Treese, Secretary. We thank our former Secretary, Karen Kowles for recording the meeting minutes this past year.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Ashby, Chair



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Report to the 2008 Annual Town Meeting

A. Committee charge (in part):

"To evaluate the town's road, sidewalk, drainage, and traffic circulation and to recommend priorities for their maintenance, repair, extension, and reconstruction".

B. Streets:

The condition of Amherst's roads has deteriorated significantly over the past year. Unfortunately, the cost of asphalt (a petroleum product) has risen dramatically in recent years while Chapter 90 appropriations (street repair funds from the state) haven't. Due to the budget cuts of the last few years, the DPW does not have enough money or manpower to adequately patch holes or do annual crack sealing – both activities that, if done correctly and promptly, greatly extend the life of a street surface. Taken together, this means that the Town is falling farther and farther behind in maintenance of roadway infrastructure. Under existing conditions, it does not seem likely that the Town will ever be able to "catch up." Therefore, the committee has discussed potential alternative strategies, such as bundling a number of future years' worth of repairs together for a bond or debt exclusion override package, and has begun compiling a list of streets most in need of attention.

The committee bases its recommendations for street repair on information contained in the DPW's pavement management inventory of the condition of all town roads, supplemented by advice from Superintendent Guilford Mooring and personal observation and experience of committee members. Chapter 90 funding, which is reimbursed by the state, is approximately \$600,000 and may not be used for other elements of the Town's – or even the Department's – budget. The committee has established a policy of prioritizing arterial roadways over neighborhood side streets, given the rising cost of paving materials and traffic flow/traffic calming considerations that are impacted by road conditions. Where needed, the committee recommends that adjacent sidewalks be repaired or constructed – an allowed use of Chapter 90 funds.

The committee has recommended that the Select Board approve the following street repair schedule for fiscal year 2009:

- Resurface North Pleasant Street from Triangle Street to Massachusetts Avenue.
- Resurface Pelham Road from the bridge to Poet's Corner and, if funds allow, as far beyond that point eastward as possible.
- Apply final asphalt layer to Henry Street.
- Resurface University Drive from Big Y intersection to Route 9 and a small part of Snell Street.
- Complete all construction design work for repairs to Sand Hill Road and, if funds allow, repair drainage system on Sand Hill Road in anticipation of repaying in FY 09.

Projects tentatively scheduled for FY 10 (summer 2009) include the rest of Pelham Road, North Pleasant and East Pleasant Streets from Amity Street to Triangle Street, and Sand Hill Road.

C. Sidewalks:

The DPW's pavement management system also informs the committee's sidewalk maintenance recommendations, as does subjective analysis of existing foot traffic and adjacent vehicle traffic, with priority given to actual and potential commuting routes. Unfortunately, despite public demand for sidewalk infrastructure, these items have not been prioritized in the town's capital plan for several years, including FY 09, and because of manpower reductions may not be possible even if money were available.

The committee's standing recommendations for capital plan **sidewalk repair or maintenance** are as follows:

- East side of Triangle Street from Mattoon Street to Cottage Street.
- West side of Sunderland Road from Montague Road to Pine Street.
- East side of Lincoln Avenue from North Hadley Road to Fearing Street.
- Both sides of North Prospect Street from Amity Street to Hallock Street.
- South side of Strong Street from Maplewood Drive to Hills Road.

In addition, the committee has been considering new sidewalk construction from a backlog of requests and proposals made to the Town over the years and has recommended the following prioritized list of **new sidewalks** for the Town's capital plan, also unfunded again in FY 09:

- East side of South East Street from Colonial Village to house #136.
- North side of East Hadley Road from South Pleasant Street to house #41.
- East side of East Pleasant Street from Village Park to Eastman Lane.
- Missing section on Old Farm Road.

In the course of its work, the committee also discovered that some neighborhoods in the school district's designated walking zone do not have sidewalks, including some routes that necessarily follow busy or dangerous streets.

D. Other Business:

During Summer and Fall 2007, the committee participated in several public hearings on the **Atkins Corner** roadway realignment project and made a number of recommendations regarding safety and design.

In October 2007, the committee held a public hearing to review possible redesign of the **University Drive** corridor and endorsed the preferred engineering solution for the Big Y intersection, recommended proceeding with a multiple left-turn-lane design for the Amity Street intersection, and requested further study of the middle section.

E. Members:

- Stephen Braun, 549-2697
- Michael Cann, 253-7753p
- Robert Crowner, 253-6526 (chair)
- Donald George, 253-7579
- Charles Moran, 549-5767
- Vincent O'Connor, 549-0810

Town of



AMHERST Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS 586 SOUTH PLEASANT STREET AMHERST, MA 01002 TEL. 413-259-3050 FAX 413-259-2414

Department of Public Works

Fiscal Year 2008

It is the end of another fiscal year and time to complete our annual report on what was accomplished. I always start the annual report process by reviewing what was reported last year. When I'm really having a hard time writing this I tend to look back over the reports from earlier times. I like the simplicity of those times, the crisp clear description of what was done, any personnel changes and a status of the DPW. Those days are long gone. We now dwell in the world of MBA's and maximizing results while minimizing input. Many people will pour over the information here and the budget book and develop long discussions about tweaking this to be able to give more here or vice versa. No one wants to acknowledge that maybe our method is not working and we need to start with a clean slate.

Last year I said it had been our worst year fiscally to date. Unfortunately we were able to exceed last year's problem this year. This year we required \$170,000 dollars to cover our DPW Budget shortfall and the Snow and Ice deficit, the S&I budget was over by \$120,000. Of the funds that were used to cover this shortfall \$70,000 was from unexpended General Fund allocations. Most of this money came from vacant positions in other Departments, positions that are scheduled to be filled in FY 09. Our deficit comes from a combination of higher energy costs and continued support of other Town and School programs. Even though we will begin FY 09 with the same budget as last year, I expect that our deficit will be greater than FY 08.

We are in a pattern that will continue to worsen as the Country slips into a recession and possibly a depression. The day I wrote this it was reported that the Maine DOT was suspending all asphalt road projects until the price for liquid asphalt improves. The price of liquid asphalt has more than doubled this year. These factors are having an adverse impact on the Town as well and I do believe Town residents, at least Pelham residents are beginning to notice. Our General fund budget starts every year \$120,000 in the red. This is the amount of work the Department will charge off to projects and capital work, work that can generally only be completed during the 8 month construction season. This is also the prime time period to do more permanent pothole repairs and other structural road repairs. We ran out of funds to patch potholes in April of 2008. A full two months before the end of the fiscal year.

Well enough of the doom and gloom. In closing, I hope you find this information helpful and that you realize that what we accomplish is not due to one person. It is due to an entire department of Union and Non-Union personnel willing to do their job and a little more to reach a common goal with the little bit of money we have.

Respectfully submitted,

Guilford B. Mooring II, P.E. Superintendent of Public Works

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

The personnel of the Highway Division in addition to their normal maintenance completed the following projects during FY 08:

HIGHWAY RESURFACING:

The following streets and roads were resurfaced, shimmed or reclaimed this year between July 2007 and November 2007 for a total of 4.2 miles. Over 1,700 ft of sidewalk was repaved on Shays Street. Additional concrete sidewalk and curbing was added along the northerly side of Pray St. New drainage was also incorporated into the Pray St Parking Lot. The DPW also paved the parking lots of the adjacent businesses at cost. In addition to the resurfacing work DPW crews also installed approximately 1,200 tons of bituminous asphalt pavement patches.

Reclaimation & 3"Overlay	From	To Joe B's Corner	Lengt h (ft)	Width (ft)
North East St	Shutesbury Rd	(House #689)	1,480	23
South East St	Bay Rd	House #1488	2,265	23
Hulst Rd	House #28	Town Line	2,875	20
Shays St	West St (Rte 116)	House #288	3,575	22.5
College St	South Whitney St	South East St	2,040	26
Pray St (+Parking Lot	•			
1300sqft)	Triangle St	East Pleasant St	495	27.5
Reclaimation & 2"Base	•			
Henry St	Market Hill Rd	Shutesbury Rd	5,600	22
Stony Hill Rd	Gatehouse Rd	Aubinwood Rd	1,545	30

SIDEWALK AND STORM DRAINAGE PROJECTS

Downtown Streetscape Improvements (Phase IV) North Pleasant St. and Pray St

The downtown sidewalk improvements continued this year with the following work completed:

New granite curbs	990 ft
New concrete sidewalk (8'wide)	106 cuyds
Sanitary Sewer pipe	30 ft
Stormwater Drain structures	4 ea
New Street Lights & conduit	4 ea

Henry Street drainage and resurfacing project;

Bituminous Concrete Curb	2,480 ft
Headwalls Completed	8
Drainage structures raised	30

OTHER PROJECTS:

- 1. Lincoln Ave Speed Cushion Trial
- 2. New Comfort Station at Groff Park
- 3. Roadway detail painting at intersections and parking lots
- 4. Ruxton Gravel Yard Site Reclaimation work
- 5. Amherst Regional Middle School Rear Access Road
- 6. Catch basin repairs 25
- 7. Isolated pipe repairs 15
- 8. Sewer repairs 8

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (T.I.P.)

The following TIP projects are underway this year:

- 1. Design of the Atkins Corner Intersection improvements
- 2. University Drive Corridor improvements
- 3. Construction of Meadow Street Bridge Replacement (Mass Highway) Completed
- 4. Construction of East Leverett Road Bridge Replacement (Mass Highway) In Progress
- 5. Design of Main Street Bridge Replacement (Mass Highway)

SANITARY SEWER DIVISION

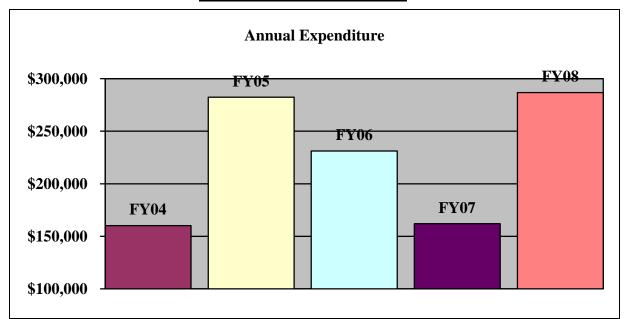
SEWER MAINTENANCE

Investigated 106 sanitary sewer complaints and corrected 30 stoppages in the collection system. Problematic sewer locations are flushed and cleaned on a quarterly basis. The DPW in conjunction with Dukes Inc, chemically treated 5,617 feet of sewer line for root intrusion.

Matt Loven

Highway Division Supervisor

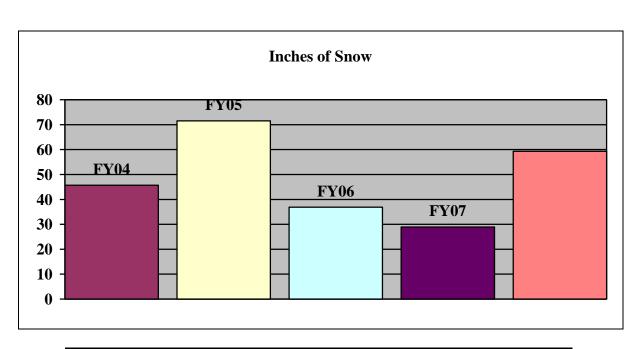
SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL



There were 23 snow and ice storms, with a total of 59.3 inches of snow.

4,249 tons of sand was used. 1,418.96 tons of salt was used.

17,503 gallons of Ice Band Magic were used on the roadways and sidewalks.



Year	Cost	Snow (inches)	No. of Storms
FY 04	\$160,181	45.7	27
FY 05	\$282,334	71.5	26
FY 06	\$231,120	36.9	20
FY 07	\$161,930	28.9	15
FY 08	\$286,777	59.3	23

TREE AND CEMETERY DIVISION

The Tree Division removed a total of 213 street trees during the past year. Trees removed were: 92 American elm, 43 sugar maple, 13 red maple, 3 red maple logs, 3 silver maple, 10 white pine, 12 white ash, 2 white oak, 1 black cherry, 1 black locust, 2 shagbark hickory, 2 yews, 1 linden, 2 pin oak, 3 Norway maple, 5 cherry, 4 locust, 1 apple, 1 crab apple, 5 hemlock, 1 Bradford pear, 2 red oak, 1 poplar, 1 fir, 1 arborvitae and 1 cedar.

During FY 08, 3 trees were planted.

30 tree stumps were removed in FY 08.

In addition to tree care responsibilities this department consisting of three full-time employees and one part-time summer employee is also responsible for the care and maintenance, including burials at the West, North and South Cemeteries.

Burials in FY 08

West Cemetery 0 North Cemetery 10 South Cemetery 24

PARKS DIVISION

The Parks Division of five full-time employees and two part-time summer staff continue the day-to-day maintenance of our parks and commons, together with the maintenance of twenty-three softball, baseball, football, lacrosse and soccer fields and many multi-purpose areas.

Special Projects:

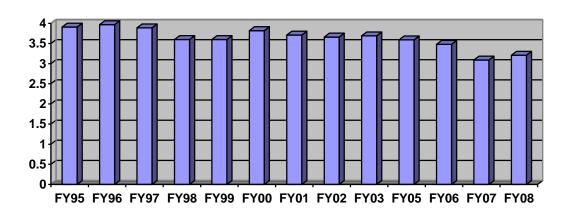
No large special projects were worked on this year due to funding.

WATER TREATMENT & DISTRIBUTION

Water Consumption: The average daily water consumption for FY 08 was 3.21 million gallons; the peak day, September 6, 2007 was 4.364 million gallons. The total FY 08 rainfall was 51.75 inches well over the annual average of 42 inches.

The figures below summarize the amount of water pumped, the revenue generated and the chemicals used to treat the water. Chlorine, ozone and ammonia are used for disinfection. Potassium permanganate is used for iron and manganese removal at Well #4. Polymer is used for water treatment at the Atkins and Centennial water treatment plants. Fluoride is added at a level of 1 part per million to reduce tooth decay and sodium hydroxide is used to elevate the pH of the water for corrosion control.

DAILY WATER CONSUMPTION IN MILLION GALLONS



Water Services

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
New services installed	31	28	15
Total water services	6,369	6,428	6,225
# Meters Replaced	294	238	265

Chemical Usage - All Sites

Chlorine (lbs.)	15,976	18,659	18,577
Sodium Hydroxide (Gals)	14,225	15,171	16,063
Polymer (gals)	2,289	3,189	2,696
Potassium Permanganate (lbs.)	1,924	393	485
Ammonia (lbs.)	3,079	3,266	3,525
Sodium Fluoride (lbs.)	17,275	19,180	16,910
Ozone	1,289	443	887

Monthly Finished Water Pumping in Million Gallons

Month	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
July	102.58	101.175	94.780
August	100.73	96.554	97.137
September	116.66	100.685	115.458
October	108.50	103.192	112.647
November	101.68	87.706	93.884
December	95.30	88.556	90.791
January	80.36	79.715	81.109
February	86.90	95.925	94.334
March	91.47	94.104	91.286
April	97.97	96.633	101.070
May	103.77	100.053	102.604
June	89.21	83.838	95.728
Total	1,175.00	1,128.140	1,170.830
Daily Average	3.22*	3.09*	3.208
Maximum Daily	5.128 (9/15/05)	4.143 (8/02/06)	4.364 (9/06/2007)
Minimum Daily	2.043 (12/27/05)	2.241 (11/25/06)	1.894 (8/14/2007)

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
Wells #1 & #2	103	167	177
Well #3	364	314	340
Well #4	191	44	47
Well #5	2	10	16
Pelham Reservoirs	231	316	304
Atkins Reservoir	284*	270*	285
Total Water Pumped	1,175	1,122	1,170
Average Daily (millions)	3.22	3.09	3.208

^{*} Quantity adjusted for meter error 200 gpm Water Billed – Cubic Feet

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
UMass	40,488,216*	36,835,279*	37,209,500
Amherst College	6,912,600	5,999,100	6,496,400
Hampshire College	3,071,000	2,667,300	3,138,100
Town	75,862,600	76,752,100	75,599,958
Municipal	1,037,500	1,172,300	1,196,900
Special Water Readings	326,700	8,751,000	2,042,700
Other –Reuse	134,900	538,200	2,565,900
Un-metered Use	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Adjustments (minus)	356,500	756,600	
Total Metered (ft ³)	133,190,016	133,468,879	132,374,219
Total Metered (million gals.)	999	1,001	993
% Unaccounted	15%	10.8%	15%

^{*}Adjusted for meter error**Total Revenue Rounded– Dollars**

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
UMass Water	\$806,313	\$797,273	\$1,084,056
Sewer	\$874,444	\$878,273	\$1,114,630
Amherst College Water	\$147,441	\$146,790	\$197,812
Sewer	\$165,965	\$159,548	\$195,000
Hampshire College Water	\$65,588	\$65,010	\$95,132
Sewer	\$73,730	\$71,618	\$94,152
Town Water	\$2,068,281	\$1,837,063	\$2,337,082
Sewer	\$2,168,192	\$1,813,176	\$2,072,189
Municipal Water	\$24,904	\$31,913	\$39,885
Sewer	\$24,802	\$32,057	\$35,862
Special Reading Water & Sewer	\$15,607	\$293,647	\$93,790
Adjustments Water & Sewer		(\$60,901)	(\$43,034)
Other Water & Sewer	\$6,492	\$29,991	0
Total Revenue	\$5,436,147	\$6,095,459	\$7,316,557

WATER QUALITY DATA:

Bacterial Samples: Bimonthly samples were analyzed from 27 sites around town and all samples were negative for fecal or E Coli bacteria.

Fluoride: Fluoride was added to all sources at a level of 1.0 ppm to prevent tooth decay.

Treatment Plant Performance: Both the Atkins (Shutesbury) and Centennial (Pelham) Water Treatment plants produced water that meet the requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The average turbidity from Atkins was 0.10 N.T.U. and from Centennial 0.08 N.T.U. The EPA requires that these readings be less than 0.3 N.T.U. in 95% of the samples. Total Trihalomethanes, a byproduct of chlorine disinfection, averaged 33.9 ppb from quarterly sampling at eight different sights around town. The EPA limit is 80 ppb. Haloacetic acids, another by product of chlorine disinfection, were also analyzed quarterly at 8 different locations and the average value was 39.1 ppm, well below the EPA limit of 60 ppm.

Water Rate: The water rate for FY 08 is listed below.

\$3.00 hundred cubic feet (750 gallons)

The average water cost to an Amherst resident, based on an annual usage of 120 HCF, is about \$360/year. This number is below the State average.

Information: More information about water treatment and quality can be accessed on line at www.mass.gov and search for drinking water.

Cross Connection Program: The cross connection program was established in 1989 under Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulation 310 CMR 22.22 to prevent cross contamination of the water supply with hazardous substances. Water department staff tests these devices twice annually.

Total Backflow Devices

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
Town	59	57	59
UMass	385	400	440
Amherst College	100	97	106
Hampshire College	28	30	31
Commercial	110	129	130
Residential-			
Irrigation	18	34	43
Total	700	747	809

Chemical Analysis: The following water tests were recently analyzed and all levels of substance in the water were below the Maximum Contaminant Level set by the Safe Drinking Water Act. More information is available online at www.amherstma.gov, go to department – water – ccr.

- -Volatile Organic Compounds Solvents, Petroleum Products
- Inorganic Compounds tested annually at all sources
- Fluoride Daily at all sources
- Synthetic Organic Compounds Herbicides and pesticides 2006 at all sources
- Arsenic
- Perchlorate
- Radioactive Substances
- Lead and Copper

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

- **A.** Well 2: Tighe & Bond Engineering of Westfield, Massachusetts was retained to engineer the replacement of Well 2. A new 18" well, 85' deep was dug and a 75 H.P. submersible pump was installed by R.E. Chapman Company at a cost of \$168,300. Town staff installed all the wiring and controls.
- **B.** <u>Atkins Water Treatment Plant:</u> Weston and Sampson Contractors completed emergency repairs of the three (3) trident treatment units. The backwash diffusers were removed and all the gaskets were replaced. The anthracite and sand in all three (3) filters was removed and replaced. All interior metal surfaces were sandblasted and repainted at a total cost of \$257,800.
- C. <u>Baby Carriage Brook Water Treatment Plant:</u> The media in all four pressure filters at this facility were cleaned to improve performance by Floran Technologies.
- **D.** <u>Hybrid Vehicle:</u> A new Ford Hybrid Vehicle was added to the fleet to reduce gas consumption.

E. Water Management Act Permit: Our Water Management Act Permit was reapplied for and approved to withdraw the following daily volumes of water until 2018:

Well 1 - 650,000 gpd

Well 2 - 360,000 gpd

Well 3 - 1,480,000 gpd

Well 4 - 1,740,000 gpd

Well 5 - 500,000 gpd

Atkins Reservoir – 1,250,000 gpd

Pelham Reservoir – 700,000 gpd (unofficial).

- **F.** <u>Baby Carriage Brook Water Treatment Plant:</u> The underground oil storage tank was removed in FY 08. The state reimbursed us for about half the cost.
- **G.** Water Main Breaks: Nineteen water main breaks occurred in FY 08.
- **H.** <u>Amity Street Water Main Improvements:</u> Tighe & Bond Engineers of Westfield, MA completed the engineering for a new water main on Amity Street from University Drive to Blue Hills Road.
- **I.** <u>Meter Calibration:</u> All master meters (large meters) in town were calibrated in August, 2007.

Robert E. Pariseau Director of Water Resources

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The treatment plant and 21 pumping stations continue to be well operated and maintained by plant staff. Operational costs are rising due to the large amount of energy consumed by the treatment processes.

The plant was constructed in 1978 and no major capital costs are expected in the next few years. Regular plant updates and equipment replacements have kept the treatment facilities current. Many plant improvements, have been accomplished by talented plant staff, and resulted in lower operational and capital costs and a sewer rate of \$3.00 per hundred cubic feet (750 gal) well below the state average.

Flow Data

The Wastewater Treatment Plant treated 1.48 billion gallons of wastewater in FY 08. The highest daily flow rate recorded was 13.8 million gallons per day on 2/13/08.

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
Inches of Rainfall	56.98	42.26	51.77
Average Daily Flow in Million Gallons	4.42	3.97	4.04
Highest Day in	11.05	10.35	10.02
Million Gallons	(10/15/05)	(4/16/07)	(2/13/08)
Chemicals Used			
Chlorine (lbs.)	9,480	9,535	9,800
Polymer (lbs.)	2,680	2,999	2,993
Potassium Permanganate (lbs.)	3,080	2,530	2,090

Chlorine is used to disinfect the wastewater prior to discharge into the Connecticut River. Polymer is used to thicken sludge as part of the disposal process. Potassium permanganate is used for odor control.

Treatment Efficiency

The water that is discharged into the Connecticut River is tested in our treatment plant laboratory. Many process control tests are performed to optimize treatment and produce the best quality effluent possible. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) monitor our activities and measure our effectiveness by the parameters listed below (annual averages). No violations of our EPA discharge permit occurred in FY 08.

Parameter	EPA Limit	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
Biochemical Oxygen				
Demand (mg/L)	25	4.4	6.0	4.0
Total Suspended				
Solids				
(mg/L)	30	3.1	4.0	4.0
Chlorination (mg/L)	1.0	0.44	.40	0.45

Septage Received

The treatment plant receives septage from residential septic tanks pumped from the towns of Amherst, Pelham and Shutesbury. Below is a summary of the number of septic tanks (usually 1000 gallons) that were pumped.

Town	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	
Amherst	78	68	115	
Pelham	Pelham 40		66	
Shutesbury	69	72	111	
Total	187	180	292	

Wastewater Reuse

The University of Massachusetts uses treatment plant effluent for make-up water at the existing steam generation facility.

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	
Million Gallons	53	55	58	

Sludge Data

Sludge is the residual organic material left after the wastewater is treated. We currently thicken these solids on-site, and Casella Waste Management is under contract to deliver the liquid sludge to an EPA-approved sludge incinerator. Sludge in FY 08 was transported to three incineration facilities: Fitchburg, MA; Millbury, MA; and Naugatuck, CT.

Sludge Data	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
Total Gallons			
(transported)	3,677,100	3,901,000	4,126,500
Total Dry Tons	1,011	1,052	1,104
% Solids	6.6	6.6	6.6

Month	Total Gallons	Ave. % Solids	Total Dry Tons	Dry Tons Per Day
July	234,000	6.7	64.35	2.1
August	207,000	7.3	62.30	2.0
September	347,500	7.2	103.79	3.5
October	381,000	6.9	106.44	3.4
November	378,000	6.7	104.56	3.5
December	369,000	6.3	97.76	3.2
January	225,000	7.3	68.45	2.2
February	412,500	6.8	116.22	4.0
March	469,500	5.2	101.36	3.3
April	433,000	6.0	107.73	3.6
May	436,000	5.9	107.08	3.5
June	234,000	6.6	64.24	2.1
Total	4,126,500		1,104.28	-
Average	343,875	6.6	92.0	3.0

Power Consumption

	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	
Avg. kWh/month	115,563	102,272	104,729	
Avg. kW Demand	354			

Special Activities:

- **A.** <u>WWTP Roof</u>: A new membrane roof was installed on the administration buildings and pump stations at the wastewater treatment plant, replacing the 1978 original roof.
- **B.** West St Pumping Station: Town staff replaced the existing 1978 vintage emergency power generator at the pumping station.
- **C.** <u>Amherst Fields Pumping Station Generator</u>: Treatment plant staff installed a new emergency power generator at the pumping station.
- **D.** <u>Aeration Tank Weirs:</u> Treatment plant staff began the removal, fabrication and replacement of 6 movable weirs. These devices control the tank and oxygen levels in the treatment units.
- **E.** <u>Demolition:</u> Treatment plant staff demolished an original equipment (1978) 3 meter vacuum filter and associated pumps. This unit was originally used for sludge dewatering when the plant was first put in service.
- **F.** <u>Primary Clarifier Valves:</u> Three 12 inch tank drain valves were replaced by plant staff on the primary clarifiers as well as one 10" valve on the aeration tanks.
- **G.** Flowmeter: Plant staff designed purchased and installed a new flowmeter and access manhole on the 36" effluent line. This flowmeter will allow plant processes to be more accurately monitored and controlled.
- **H.** <u>Hybrid Vehicle:</u> A new Ford Escape Hybrid vehicle was purchased to save fuel while doing the daily checks on the 21 pumping stations.

Robert E. Pariseau Director of Water Resources

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING

Continuing to work with limited resources, the solid waste and recycling program focused energy on community relationship building/collaboration and public education in FY 08. In addition to ongoing collaboration with the Health Department, the Energy Task Force, and the school's contracted food service provider (Chartwells), we established relationships with the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce, Promoting Downtown Amherst (a downtown Chamber subgroup), and the *Taste of Amherst* organizing committee. Recycling and Solid Waste had a continued presence at the Sustainable Energy Fair (fall 2007), and at the revitalized Earth Day 2008 celebration, for which we played a major organizing role. The website continues to make information available to those with computer access.

Grants Awarded

Amherst was awarded 200 blue curbside recycling bins from the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Advisory Board. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Municipal Waste Reduction Grant also awarded resources valued at \$2,800 to the Town of Amherst. We received 20 rain barrel discount vouchers, 100 Home Composting trifold brochures, 3000 bi-lingual (English/Spanish) recycling education door hangers, and an in-kind technical assistance grant. The technical assistance grant focused on Amherst's school composting program. After a preliminary visit from the assigned DEP employee, the project was give the goal of "attempting to implement an organics compost program in most of all of the Town's schools that can be sustained on a long-term basis without outside funding. This effort continues and as of July 2008, no final DEP recommendations or report has been filed.

Outreach and Public Education

General Amherst Population

Sustainable Energy Fair – For the second year in a row, members of the Recycling and Refuse Management Committee (formerly the Solid Waste Committee) joined the recycling coordinator in staffing a booth at this September 15 event on the Town Common. Informational brochures about recycling, composting, and waste reduction were provided and recycling and compost bins were available for sale. Informational posters and a simple quiz question about plastic bottles were also highlight of the booth. Those able to answer the quiz received a small prize.

Amherst Grows Green – The recycling coordinator worked with the Chamber of Commerce and members of the Public Shade Tree Committee to organize a day-long Earth and Arbor Day event downtown on April 26. The Earth Day portion of the event included a puppet show, three speakers (on topics of organic lawn care, legislative green initiatives and home energy conservation), booths/informational tables along the sidewalks of North Pleasant and a "Go Green" scavenger hunt involving a number of downtown merchants. An advertisement was placed in the Amherst Bulletin and on the Town Website, and posters/flyers were hung about Town to advertise the event. The scavenger hunt was created so that local businesses can tout the earth-friendly actions they take, whether it be recycling material, selling recycled merchandise, using energy-efficient restaurant practices, or composting food waste. Posters highlighting these actions were posted inside participating businesses, and participants were asked to answer five questions (e.g. "List 3 stores that recycle cardboard") to be eligible for a

prize drawing. The Recycling and Refuse Management Committee staffed a booth on the street with recycling, rain barrel and composting information, and a paper recycling quiz was offered with prizes given to high scorers. For funding and other reasons, the Shade Tree Committee chose to hold a series of separate events at the library, Amherst Cinema, on the North Common and in Sweetser Park as the Arbor Day portion of the event.

Taste of Amherst – In an attempt to gain a better understanding of the public event waste situation, the recycling coordinator volunteer to assist with this year's Taste of Amherst event. Two volunteers from the Recycling and Refuse Management Committee worked with the recycling coordinator collecting recyclables and trash for one evening of the four day June event. Several key improvements were noted including: lack of storage location for recyclables (increase of non-deposit bottles caused storage challenge), need for side-by-side recycling and garbage bins (otherwise people don't distinguish the two), and the need for clearer signage on the recycling bins. We look forward to assisting with the process again next year.

Schools and Youth Education

Composting Program – The composting program continued successfully at two elementary schools: Wildwood and Marks Meadow. Both the custodial team and the school administrators at these schools proved to be strong compost supporters, a factor critical to the program's success. A parent volunteered weekly at Wildwood to act as a compost coach. The parent's fun, lively spirit was infectious and a platoon of enthusiastic student volunteers formed to help coach their peers. TTT Trucking out of Brattleboro, Vermont continues to pick up the food waste weekly and transport it to Martin's Farm in Greenfield.

Trash Free Lunch Day – The second annual "Trash-Free Lunch Day" (a collaboration with Chartwells, the food service organization which held the school lunch contract with Amherst Regional Schools) was again a success in terms of awareness building for students and school employees at the four elementary schools. This year Wildwood Elementary School reduced its trash volume by approximately 90% to a mere 6.5 pounds through diligent composting and reduction of single use containers and utensils.

Educational Presentations – Recycling presentations were given to three Girl Scout troops, and the recycling coordinator co-led an after school environmental club at Wildwood Elementary School. The "Green Team" made gifts out of discarded material, produced and sold an earth-friendly window cleaner, organized a school "earth valentine," visited a solar-powered residence, and constructed energy-efficient model towns and neighborhoods.

Additional Initiatives

Waste Hauler Licensure Change

In fall of 2007, the Amherst Board of Health approved an administrative change in the waste hauler licensure process. The Department of Public Works will now handle the administrative portion of the waste hauler licensure process including communications, processing and distribution. This change was supported by the Recycling and Refuse Management Committee as a means by which better relations and process oversight may be achieved. The Health Department will receive copies of all paperwork and issued licenses and will continue to be responsible for inspections and public health oversight.

ARPS Food Service Selection Committee

In an effort to reduce the amount of single-use serveware in school cafeterias, the recycling coordinator joined the volunteer committee producing the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the new school food service provider. Waste reduction criteria was included in the RFP and reviewed/discussed along with other criteria in determining the winning proposal. A new food service organization, Whitson's, will begin to serve the Amherst Schools in August 2008. While their past waste reduction behavior was unimpressive, their apparent willingness to try new approaches (including purchase of local produce and elimination of white flour) bodes well for future waste reduction collaborations.

Waste Collection and Landfill Diversion

Curbside pickup of trash and recyclables in Amherst continues to be provided by private trash haulers, however, households requesting variances are allowed to bring their recycling and trash directly to the Transfer Station in pre-paid bags. This fiscal year 482 households received variances to Pay as You Throw (PAYT), eliminating their need for a private waste hauler.

Earth Machine composting units, kitchen counter compost pails, recycling bins, and sharps collection containers continue to be available for purchase at the Transfer Station. Rain barrel purchases and MA DEP-sponsored rain barrel discounts were offered to Amherst residents in early spring and distributed in April from the DPW parking lot on Route 116.

In FY 08 the medical waste hauler destroyed 109 pounds of Sharps collected by Amherst's Health Department and Transfer Station. In anticipation of a MassDEP 2009 Sharps landfill disposal ban, the Health Department's Nurse (Julie Federman) and the recycling coordinator worked with a public health intern from UMass to update publicity material and develop an action plan for the Sharps program. The program was renamed the "Safe needle disposal" program to more clearly represent program goals. Publicity for the revised program will commence in FY 09.

The Recycling Center and Transfer Station supports many other landfill diversion programs. The following items are accepted at no charge from residents with current vehicle stickers:

Clothing (goes to Salvation Army) Automotive and rechargeable batteries Waste automotive oil Leaves & grass clippings Christmas trees Printer cartridges & cell phones Mixed containers Mixed paper

Mercury-bearing items such as thermometers & thermostats.

The option to donate return deposit drink containers to the local food bank continues with a designated bin. Fluorescent bulbs, brush, electronics, household solid waste (bulky items), construction/demolition waste, scrap metal, asphalt, bricks, concrete, wood, paint, tires, appliances and propane tanks are all accepted for recycling/disposal after payment of fees.

Types and quantities of materials diverted via the Transfer Station over a four-year period are shown in the table below. The FY 06 spike in collected paint is attributed to a paint collection procedure change in FY 05.

	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
Chipped Brush/Leaves (tons)	62	34	NA	NA
Electronics (tons)	22	31	32	30
Scrap Metal (tons)	209	242	216	153
HHW in household equivalents	183	116	130	156
Paint (gallons)*	1,079	2,119	1,854	1,532
Tires (count)	678	559	757	461
Appliances	705	870	854	609
Propane Tanks	247	106	139	56

^{*} Oil-based paint and paint products known to contain lead are only accepted during HHW collection days.

The Take It or Leave It and Book Sheds, which allow vehicle sticker owners to swap books and household items, remain very popular. Prolonged visits to these sheds continue to cause parking shortages on busy days at the Transfer Station.

Two household hazardous waste (HHW) collection days were held in the fall ('07) and spring ('08). As in past years, residents of Hadley, Leverett, Pelham and Shutesbury are able to bring their HHW through a cost-sharing agreement with those communities.

Conclusion

The August 2008 launch of the new CivicPlus-powered Town of Amherst website, on which there is an increased recycling/solid waste presence and we will have full editing control, is eagerly anticipated. Meanwhile challenges to the efficacy of Amherst's solid waste program continue to mount. For example, attempts to secure grant or Town funds to purchase a \$50K split truck body, which will enable public area container recycling downtown and in Town parks, reduce composting costs and potentially boost compost activity, have been unsuccessful thus far. The part-time nature of the recycling coordinator position (15 hours per week since 2005) has minimized the resources with which this type of challenge can be met.

Susan Waite Recycling Coordinator

THE AMHERST REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Fiscal Year 2008

The Amherst Redevelopment Authority (ARA) was established by Town Meeting in 1971. In Massachusetts redevelopment authorities are autonomous agencies, which municipalities may form to aid in urban renewal under MGL, Chapter 121B. Urban renewal is restricted to "decadent" or "blighted" areas of unrealized potential for a community. The ARA has full control over projects, although public participation plays a major role. Town Meeting must approve all requests for project funds.

Although enabled to undertake redevelopment projects throughout the community, the ARA's initial task was to plan and develop Boltwood Walk, a 9.6-acre area between Main Street and Kellogg Avenue, most of it previously used for schools. The purpose of the Boltwood Walk Project has been to strengthen the center of Amherst with the addition of facilities for community activities and services, business, and housing for the elderly. Special emphasis has been placed on providing a place where older citizens can lead active, independent lives. Boltwood Walk includes Ann Whalen Apartments, Clark House, the Bangs Community Center, and several commercial properties and public ways. With the completion of the Boltwood Walk parking garage in 2002, redevelopment of the properties within the Boltwood Walk Project was substantially completed.

The Amherst Redevelopment Authority continues to meet occasionally to discuss possible new projects and activities it could implement to benefit the Town of Amherst.

Margaret Roberts and Aaron Hayden were elected to the ARA in the 2008 annual town-wide election. ARA member terms are five years. The other members of the ARA are Fran VanTreese, Larry Kelley and Jeanne Traester (Governor's appointee).

Office of the Superintendent 170 Chestnut Street Amherst, MA 01002 (413) 362-1823 (413) 549-9811 fax

September 15, 2008

Our office has a collection of Town Annual Reports that includes the Pelham Report from 1908—a 100 year old "snapshot" of what we once were. A few excerpts remind us of how society, schools and our towns have changed—and we are sure that 100 years from now the changes will be as dramatic.

1908 Pelham Town Report Excerpts:

- "We have great difficulty in securing teachers who are willing to accept positions in rural schools."
- "It is the duty of the teacher and parent... to teach students to 'abhor that which is evil and cleave to that which is good so there will be no room for bad.""
- "Medical Inspection: Of the 74 students tested, 12 were found to be defective and 10 parents were notified by the school physician."
- "Some children can read music and 'carry a part' very well."
- "Music has a moral and wholesome effect on the pupils and contributes to the refinement of taste in the community."
- "There are now eight students attending high school. Next June we expect a class of four or five."

As one-year Co-Interim Superintendents for 2008-2009, our 2007-2008 report to the citizens of Amherst is essentially derived from and based on the writings and observations of the previous Superintendent, Dr. Jere Hochman, and various school departments. Amherst Public Schools are actively engaged in an ambitious mission. We are committed to the achievement and success of every student, every day—and in every way. We aspire to student achievement of high-status knowledge and skills, with a curriculum that maintains high academic standards delivered with instructional strategies that are experiential, progressive and research-based. We aspire to high levels of professionalism within the mandates of federal and state regulations. We aspire to guarantee all the standards of safety, management and fiscal responsibility.

We work as a public entity regulated by law, educational codes, School Committee policy and district and school guidelines. We utilize independent audits, external program reviews, and many internal, routine checks and balances of our school system. Our district goals are derived from needs determined by our School Committee, in partnership with school site faculties and councils, staff, administrators, and with public input. Our district goals and school site goals are available at all school offices and are currently posted on our website, www.arps.org.

We continue to examine every department of our three school districts. We have reviewed policy and procedures in human resources, the business office, facilities, technology, professional development,

curriculum, student services, and all areas of administration and accountability. The district central office has been reorganized and there have been changes in personnel to better support our schools.

Over the past few years, we have experienced considerable change in both federal and state regulations. These government intentions, although not always well matched to all our needs, have merit and we have focused on those areas needing our attention. Organizationally, our schools are surrounded by three entities of the organization: curriculum, student services, and operations. Each of these areas is guided by a set of assumptions and beliefs and, more directly, by standards and expectations.

Our district operations include facilities, the business office, human resources, and information systems and technology. The facilities department coordinates transportation, maintenance, and general facilities operations. Ron Bohonowicz began his work as Director of Facilities in July, 2006. Unique to this position is that Mr. Bohonowicz works for both the schools and Town, 80% and 20% respectively. Rob Detweiller serves as Director of Finance and Operations. Kathryn Mazur has the full time responsibility of coordinating and directing Human Resources. Jerry Champagne continues as Director of Information Systems.

All of these departments continue to review policies and procedures, working toward increased service orientation, and implementing and improving numerous systems and procedures. This includes continued implementation of technology, including upgraded software systems in our business operation (MUNIS), student information systems (Power School), a data warehouse (Cognos), and a comprehensive personnel management system (Kronos).

Our work in curriculum development and supervision has been in transition as we reconcile efforts with the federal and state expectations, balanced with the school site autonomy that has been valued in Amherst for decades. Dr. Wendy Kohler, who retired in August 2008, was responsible for work in this area. Her work in grants (entitlement and competitive); development and supervision of many district-wide programs in relation to town agencies and the colleges and universities; and work in all curriculum areas, specifically focused on mathematics, language arts, social studies, science, and social justice was redistributed among staff. Fran Ziperstein, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development, and Mike Hayes, District Curriculum, will be one-year interim replacements to handle many of her duties.

A major development in coordinating efforts and fostering efficiency has been in the area of Student Services. Maria Geryk continues her work as Director of Student Services. Student Services provides guidance and coordination in two major areas: 1) student information and compliance with regulations and 2) services and programs for students. The latter includes special education, English language education for students whose first language is not English, guidance and counseling, health services, early childhood, outreach, Title I (reading and mathematics intervention), out-of-district programs for students, and others.

Complimenting all of these efforts is our work with Town departments, Town businesses and agencies, the colleges and University, and others. The response and dedication for our students and organization have been wonderful. Efforts in safety and security in conjunction with the Amherst Police and the Amherst Fire Department are noteworthy. Our school/town "Fields Committee" meets monthly to coordinate efforts in facility use, fields use, activities, recreation, and athletics. The colleges and University have all provided support in terms of student interns, volunteers, work on service projects, curriculum coordination, and other targeted efforts. The list of partnerships and coordinated efforts is quite lengthy, productive and growing in number.

While we have worked to become more efficient in our organization and operation as well as to address our ambitious goals, we find ourselves doing so with a budget that comes no where close to supporting the needs. Our intentional efforts in energy management, freezing department resources, limiting hiring and programs, and other measures of cost containment are still not sufficient in addressing the restrictions on our budget. Funding for federal programs has been reduced again this year. State funding has still not returned us to service levels of previous years. Town funding has been constrained for reasons clarified elsewhere in this report. Community expectations for educational services remain high, even as budgets and staffing are reduced.

As the 2007-2008 school year began, we again found ourselves opening school with increased class sizes, reduced staffing, and decreases in numerous budget supply and program lines. We opened school with continued determination to ensure efficiency and compliance with regulations, increased organizational capacity, and professional growth and development.

As the 2008-2009 school year proceeds, we will produce updates and reports on many areas of our work, all of which should guide the development of our budget. We hope you will subscribe to our periodic update of district events at learning@arps.org. Just send an email to that address and we will add you to the list. We post all information about our budget efforts as they proceed and other district information on our website www.arps.org. You can also access all individual school websites through that site. We are actively pursuing plans to upgrade and make our electronic communications more timely, useful and informative. We appreciate public input on changes and improvements to our communication systems that would both inform and engage our stakeholders. An overview of our district goals and initiatives this year, many of which have implications for the FY 09 budget, are posted on our district website under the Superintendents link.

Let us use the words of A. L. Hardy, the 1908 Superintendent, to help express our thoughts. One hundred years ago, he closed his report by saying, "Personally, it is a great pleasure to me to work with and for the boys and girls of Pelham, and if I can help them to be better boys and girls, better men and women, noble, true, self-respecting citizens, then I certainly shall have my reward."

We appreciate the opportunity to work with and for the citizens and children of Amherst and the Region, and we continue to thank you for your ongoing support and sincere interest in our children and our schools. We find lots of energy and expertise in our school community as a whole. When we focus our energy and expertise on providing excellence, equity and opportunity to all students, every day, we achieve greatness.

Sincerely,

Al Sprague Co-Superintendent Helen Vivian Co-Superintendent

THE AMHERST PUBLIC AND AMHERST-PELHAM REGIONAL SCHOOLS

Fiscal Year 2008

AMHERST PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Amherst School Committee

Andy Churchill, Chair Elaine Brighty, Vice-Chair Sonia Correa Pope, Secretary Kathleen Anderson Catherine Sanderson

The Amherst School Committee is an elected body responsible for the public education of all children in kindergarten through grade six and of pre-school children with substantial special needs in our community. The Committee meets regularly on the third Tuesday of each month and welcomes citizen participation at each meeting. The members of this committee also serve as Amherst's members of the Regional School Committee which has responsibility for the educational programs for children in grades seven through twelve.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Student enrollment as of October 1, 2007 was:

<u>GRADE</u>		STUDENTS
Pre K		74
K		176
1		185
2		179
3		205
4		194
5		201
6		<u>196</u>
	TOTAL	1,410

Twenty-three children from Amherst attended other school districts under the School Choice program.

AMHERST-PELHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee

Michael Hussin, Chairperson (Pelham)

Marianne Jorgensen, Vice-Chairperson (Shutesbury)

Michael Katz, Secretary (Leverett)

Sonia Correa Pope, (Amherst)

Andy Churchill (Amherst)

Elaine Brighty, (Amherst)

Kathleen Anderson (Amherst)

Maureen Ecclestone (Pelham)

Catherine Sanderson (Amherst)

The Regional School Committee represents the four communities that comprise the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District: Amherst, Pelham, Leverett, and Shutesbury. It is responsible for the direction and support of the educational programs for students in Grades 7 through 12 from each of these towns. Committee meetings are open to the public, except for executive sessions as prescribed by law, and are

held twice-monthly on Tuesday evenings. Opportunity is available at every meeting for public participation.

STUDENTS

Enrollment in the Regional Middle and Senior High Schools as of October 1, 2007 decreased by 36 students. Enrollments on October 1 over the last ten years were as follows:

1997-1998—1937	2002-2003—2032
1998-1999—2007	2003-2004—2043
1999-2000—2017	2004-2005—1921
2000-2001—2044	2005-2006—1924
2001-2002—2068	2006-2007—1853

In addition, 34 Regional students were enrolled in Vocational Schools as of October 1, 2007. Fourteen students attended other school districts under the State's School Choice Program, and 55 students were enrolled at charter schools. Tuition for district students to attend these schools is paid by the Regional School District.

As of April 18, 2008 when this report was prepared, enrollment in the Regional Middle and Senior High Schools was as follows:

2007-2008

Grade	Amherst	Pelham	Leverett	Shutesbury	Wards	Tuition	Total
7	217	18	27	19	-	7	288
8	219	18	16	21	-	11	285
9	237	17	21	16	-	20	311
10	227	16	14	22	-	20	299
11	226	22	20	25	-	15	308
12	198	21	22	27	-	30	298
TOTALS	1,324	112	120	130		103	1,789

There were 193 students from Amherst who graduated with the class of 2008.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The instructional program, developed by teachers in all areas of the curriculum, reflects the overall philosophy and goals of education established by the School Committee. An appropriate range of support services remains in place to help students achieve their highest possible potential. Included among these programs are Guidance, Health Services, Special Education, and English Language Learners Program.

Amherst–Pelham Regional High School is a four-year comprehensive school and is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The student body of the High School and Middle School is culturally diverse with a population that includes 69% Caucasian, 9% African-American, 8% Asian, 10% Hispanic, and 4% multi-racial and includes native speakers of 23 languages. Masters or doctoral degrees are held by 85% of the faculty.

The students in the Regional schools work hard and excel. For the 2007-2008 school year, the high school had 25 National Merit Commendations and 3 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists who received Certificates of Merit, in a class of 314 students. Ninety-one percent of our students will pursue higher education at colleges and universities across the nation after graduation from the Amherst Regional High School. Nationally normed standardized testing results reflect that, overall, our students score significantly above grade level in all areas tested. Students consistently enroll in courses beyond the standard graduation requirements.

PRIMARY GOALS FOR THE AMHERST AND REGIONAL SCHOOLS

- 1. Developing and maintaining an up-to-date, innovative, multicultural, academically challenging curriculum that promotes high standards and success for all students.
- 2. Providing creative, multi-faceted instruction that maintains high standards, engages all students, and enables all students to be successful learners.
- 3. Making all students feel fully welcome and a part of our schools, regardless of race, class, gender, language, religion, sexuality, culture, academic success, or physical abilities.
- 4. Eliminating the achievement gap among students from different racial, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- 5. Addressing the demands and opportunities facing our schools as a result of the rapid growth in the use of technology throughout our society.
- 6. Increasing communication and collaboration among the district's stakeholders students, parents, teachers, staff, administrators, and the larger community and using parents and the community more effectively as educational resources.
- 7. Hiring and retaining a high quality teaching and administrative staff.
- 8. Equipping and maintaining school buildings to provide healthy, accessible, modern learning environments that support the achievement of our mission.
- 9. Sustaining a physically and emotionally safe environment in our schools for students and staff.

There were several matters to which the Regional School Committee and the Superintendent gave considerable attention:

AMHERST AND AMHERST-PELHAM REGIONAL SCHOOLS HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Business Office

The business office is responsible for the business practices of the school systems. Business office staff ensure that staff are paid on time; oversee all purchasing and contracting; provide accounting and cash management; ensure accountability and legal compliance; produce reports for the State, School Committees, Towns, and working groups; conduct routine internal audits of the business functions of the schools and support audits by outside independent auditors; produce annual budgets for each of the three school districts; and monitor and perform financial analysis of all district programs.

2007-2008 Highlights

- The Accounts Payable staff pays nearly 10,000 invoices per fiscal year for the three districts combined.
- The Payroll staff issued more than 23,000 paychecks or direct deposits last year.
- The Director of Finance and Operations oversees three budgets totaling \$48,498,750 for fiscal year 2008.
- The Amherst-Pelham Regional School District received a Standard & Poor's rating of "A+" as part of the bond refinancing process for fiscal year 2007.

2007-2008 Initiatives

- Reviewed and updated Finance and Operations policies
- Selected and contracted a Food Services Management Company, Whitsons, through a Request For Proposal (RFP) process
- Convened a Regional Agreement subcommittee to recommend a method to allocate transportation costs in compliance with state requirements
- Implemented new 403(b) regulations issued by the IRS affecting employee tax deferred retirement plans
- Developed a plan for the implementation of GASB#45 by FY 09, changing the method of reporting for non-pension other post-employment benefits (OPEB).

Curriculum and Program Development Office

The primary function of this office is to oversee the articulation of K-12 curriculum and to provide oversight for new program initiatives (for both students and staff) in the three school districts. The other primary function of this office is the programmatic as well as financial oversight of all grants awarded to the districts.

2007-2008 Highlights

- Publication of K-12 curriculum guides in mathematics, English/language arts, and science
- Implementation of a pilot "Pipeline Project" initiative in collaboration with Amherst College (a school year plus summer program of academic tutoring and mentoring).
- Procurement of four new competitive grants: Academic support initiatives (two), Chinese

- language instruction, expanded time in learning (planning grant).
- In the 2006-2007 school year, thirty-six grants were awarded to the school districts for a total exceeding 2.5 million dollars. Of the total funding, approximately 1.8 million dollars went to pay the salary (either full or portion) of over 90 teachers, paraprofessionals, and clerical staff.
- Twenty-five new district professional development workshop offerings announced this fall.
- New teacher mentoring/induction program provides district-wide as well as building-based support for teachers in their first three years in the district.
- The recommendations of the math program review committee will be presented to the Superintendent this fall.
- Established Chinese language instruction (grades K-6) at Wildwood elementary school.
- Each year the program office processes over one hundred requests from out-of-district groups to rent school facilities (classrooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums, etc.).

2007-2008 Initiatives

- Gathered data and oversaw the full district EQA (Educational Quality Assessment) audit.
- Oversaw the on-going review, revision, and evaluation of curricula/programs.
- Developed a sustainable model for the "Pipeline Project" initiative in collaboration with Amherst College.
- Oversaw multi-level initiatives related to Chinese instruction in the schools (FLAP grant).
- Organized study groups and established protocols for the exploration of expanded time on learning in the elementary schools.

Facilities Department

The Facilities Department is responsible for the maintenance and protection of assets for nine buildings in the Amherst, Pelham and Regional Schools. The Transportation Department operates and maintains a fleet of nine school buses and fourteen school vans, which provide daily transportation for students both in Amherst and in out-of-district special education placements.

2007-2008 Highlights

- A back up generator was installed for the Information System computer system, which will provide emergency power to support critical phone and data access in emergencies.
- The specification and procurement process was completed to purchase four new transportation vehicles needed to replace vehicles that no longer met safety and operational standards. These vehicles were specified to maximize student safety as well as to maintain energy standards.
- The high school security system was upgraded, adding more protection to the computer rooms, library and cafeteria; the areas that house the most valuable materials and equipment.
- In the past year, the department completed 1,337 work orders from district staff to repair or alter buildings and equipment. All this was done while maintaining a safe learning environment for our students and staff.
- Nine school buses and fourteen vans drove 281,688 miles in the 2006-2007 school year.

2007-2008 Initiatives

- Expanded security measures in all district facilities.
- Managed energy usage to minimize costs to the district.
- Developed a long-range capital plan to improve the facilities and transportation infrastructure, which will create a better learning environment for all students.

Human Resources Department

The district Human Resources department provides quality leadership and guidance in the development, implementation, and administration of human resources related policies, practices, and procedures in a professional, caring, and consistent manner in order to provide an equitable and positive work environment for all district employees.

2007-2008 Highlights

- Completed core implementation of Kronos Workforce HR, a human resources software
 product that maintains and has reporting capacity for all employee information, including
 personal demographic, position and assignment demographic, individual development and
 certification, and contains the fields required to comply with Massachusetts Department of
 Education mandated reporting.
- Collected and electronically recorded demographic, education and licensure information for all staff, permanent and temporary workers, to comply with new State and Federal initiatives.
- Completed roll out of Kronos Self Service, a component accessible by all employees to track their individual employment information and benefits.
- Utilized Self-Service with all employees to conduct three mandatory on-line "surveys" to assure and record employee compliance with our revised Employee Handbook, district expectations, and to update emergency contact information for all staff.
- Worked with Student Services Office in developing a new employee orientation program.

2007-2008 Initiatives

- Contracted negotiations were completed for all individual district units; administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, clerical, custodial, and maintenance staff.
- Five key administrative positions were filled within the district, including three elementary principals, one middle school principal, and an interim superintendent of schools.
- In addition to conducting paper-based Exit Interviews, "Stay" interviews were conducted with teachers and administrators of color to support district retention efforts.

Information Systems

Information Systems has the responsibility for all electronic software and hardware systems spanning three school districts and ten buildings. Duties include the installation and maintenance of all computer-related infrastructure (servers, switches, cabling, operating systems), user and email accounts, Web Server, email system, desktop computers, networked printers, digital projectors, scanners, digital cameras, all software (curriculum and central office) and the districts-wide digital telephone system.

2007-2008 Highlights

- Amherst's participation in the state-wide Educational Data Warehouse (EDW) has been implemented.
- A Web-based grade book system for teachers has been installed.
- The Connect-Ed emergency contact and notification system was implemented and all administrative staff were trained in its use.
- Study Island MCAS preparation software for math was installed and implemented.
- Through a partnership with the Town of Amherst, increased high-speed internet connections by ten-fold when the Five-College fiber network came online in September.

- The department manages and maintains more than 15 databases of student and staff data for the three districts, as well as 1,818 student email and network accounts.
- After the filters remove SPAM, more than 8,000 emails are received daily in the districts.
- The network systems have an average uptime of 99.9%.
- The department maintains more than two dozen file servers, 150 networked printers, 70 digital projectors, and 340 telephones.

2007-2008 Initiatives

- Trained faculty and staff in the use of the Educational Data Warehouse as a data analysis tool in preparing and implementing student success plans.
- Began work to implement a Parent Portal, which will allow parents access to information regarding their children's grades and attendance information.
- Installed and implemented the Study Island MCAS preparation software for English and Science.

Student Services Department

The Student Services Department supports the districts' work in meeting the varied profiles of all of our unique learners. Toward meeting the standard of high achievement for all of our students, this department is working on the development of structures/frameworks, procedures/protocols, student interventions and programs, and professional development opportunities. The goal is to provide the building-based staff the vehicle to gather information regarding the learning profiles of their students, and the tools necessary to differentiate and individualize instruction; to identify specific student needs; to develop and implement student-specific interventions; and to assess and monitor student outcomes.

2007-2008 Highlights

- Successfully completed the Coordinated Program Review by the Department of Education, which included review of Special Education, English Learner Education, Civil Rights, Title I, and McKinney Vento.
- Expanded professional development opportunities for paraprofessional staff, van/bus drivers, cafeteria staff, professional staff, and administrators. The creation of professional development opportunities in digital format began, which offers greater access for staff.
- Strengthened communication with families and schools. Continued collaborative work with
 the Special Education Parents Advisory Council, including the hosting of the PAC website.
 Increased focus on consistency and alignment of policy and practice across all buildings and
 programs to support greater equity and clearer communication.
- Increased focus on the well-being of students and staff by implementing the work of the Responsiveness Committee. In addition, continued implementation of the trauma sensitive schools initiative, safe and drug free schools initiatives, and a more collaborative focus on anti-bullying and increasing social competency in our students.

2007-2008 Initiatives

- Continued the focus on high achievement for all students by supporting the work at the building level in identifying the needs of specific students and subgroups who require intervention, by implementing research based interventions, by monitoring response to these interventions, and by monitoring progress.
- Increased meaningful communication with families whose primary language is other than

- English, and supported implementation of translation protocols and access to interpreters.
- Continued development of a focused vision regarding the supports, services and professional development necessary to support the well-being of our students.
- Continued and expanded our work regarding school safety and crisis planning.

SENIOR CENTER/COUNCIL ON AGING (COA)

Fiscal Year 2008

PRINCIPAL GOAL: To run a multi-purpose Senior Center which serves as the community focal point for the provision of services to the elderly. The S. C. works to initiate, facilitate, coordinate, and/or provide those services which in the broadest sense enhance dignity, support independence, maintain health, and promote the involvement of Amherst's elderly in the general community.

THE SENIOR CENTER: A VITAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Whether it's simply reading our 16-page bi-monthly newsletter, THE SENIOR SPIRIT, or coming in daily for the hot lunch program, Amherst's older residents have come to rely on the Senior Center. Here are examples of some of our program and service offerings in FY 08: CLINICS: foot care, ear irrigation, massage, blood pressure, flu/health fair, hearing aid repair, and free consultations two days a week with an R.N.; psychological counseling, energy healing FITNESS PROGRAMS/CLASSES: Strength training, gentle fitness, Tai Chi, folkdance, Qigong, laughter yoga, gentle yoga, twice wkly walking club, line dancing, ballroom dancing. dancercise, "Improving Posture and Overall Fitness", EnhanceFitness® **ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES:** "Heroes in the Sciences", Advanced Computer, Using the Internet, Shakespeare's The Tempest, Shakespeare's Othello, Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, Shakespeare's Hamlet, Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale, knitting, sewing, quilting, watercolor/oil painting, , drawing, cooking, memoir writing, financial management, short story readings, Cosmology, Using the Internet, Understanding U.S. and World Economies, Smith/UMass Computer Research Workshops, Marketplace Seminar: Oral History Services. **DISCUSSION/SUPPORT GROUPS:** New Options, Peace of Mind, Audio-Book Group for Visually Impaired Persons, Caregivers' Support, Aging Together

SOCIAL RECREATION: Musical Showcases, bus/van/plane trips, COA 40th Anniversary Social, Senior Health Services Grand Opening Reception, Tag Sale, Public Safety picnic, Thanksgiving Dinner, bridge, scrabble, Chinese mah-jongg, grocery bingo, Volunteer Awards Social,

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS: Financial Planning, Amherst Fire Department seminars in Fall Prevention, Kitchen Safety, Fire Prevention and All There is to Know About 911; Amherst Police Department seminar on "Identity Theft"; "Depression and Anxiety in the Older Adult", "Understanding, Treating & Managing Arthritis", Five College Learning in Retirement informational meeting, "Smile for Seniors" (dental health), "The Aging Eye", "Supportive Herbs for Arthritis", "Foot Health & Education for an Aging Population", "Bladder Control", "Understanding Dementia", "Living Well With Diabetes", "How to Recognize True Health Care Emergencies", "Being An Effective Consumer 101--Approaching the Doctor's Office", "Healthy Eating" Nutrition Talk, "How to Handle Winter Emergencies", "Prevention and Treatment of Stroke", "Understanding Cooley Dickinson Hospital's Hospitalist Program", "What is a Geriatrician and How is a Geriatrician's Care Different?", "Breast Cancer in Older Women", "Quality Living", "Individual Medication Brown Bag Review", "Everything You Wanted to Know About Shingles Disease and the Vaccine to Prevent It", "Boning Up on Osteoporosis", "Basics of Asthma and Devices Used to Treat It", "Palliative vs Hospice Care", "Summertime Emergencies", "Prostate cancer: Diagnosis and Treatment in the 21st Century", "Prevention and Treatment of Stroke", "Diabetes Basics", "Making Connections: Diabetes and Heart Health", "Hospice and Medicare/Medicaid", "Sleep: Normal and Abnormal Issues", "The Use of an Urgent Care Center", "High Blood Pressure", 'To Move or Not to Move", "Aging With Vitality", "The Abbeyfield Housing Concept",

SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS: HVES (Highland Valley Elder Services) Title III Congregate hot lunch program, Meals on Wheels evening hot supper through the University of Massachusetts, HVES Title III Home Delivered hot lunch, tax assistance, leaf raking, personal care/homemaking referral, friendly visitor program, social worker counseling/I+R, Brown Bag monthly groceries through Western Mass. Food Bank, Food Box monthly groceries through Amherst Survival Center, free weekly bread/produce giveaway, emergency food pantry, volunteer driving, SHINE health insurance counseling, tax assistance, Tax Work-Off intake, subsidized van ticket sales, farmers' market coupon distribution, medical rides and free wheelchair and equipment loan closet, free smoke detector program with Amherst Fire Department, and partnership with the SALT Council to provide services such as house numbering, RUOK, File of Life, 911 Cell Phone distribution, SAFE Elder project

SENOR CENTER CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

The Amherst Senior Center opened its doors at 17 Kellogg Avenue in 1968 thanks to the efforts of the Council on Aging established the previous year by a vote of Town Meeting while Allen Torrey was Town Manager. Events marking the occasion this 40th anniversary year include a creative dance performance/70th birthday celebration by Alicia Morton at the Nacul Center in May; marching with a special banner in the Fourth of July Town parade and a special banquet planned for October 19th at the Bangs Community Center.

COUNSELING CENTER

The Senior Center was again awarded a Title III grant from Highland Valley Elder Services (HVES) to continue providing psychotherapy services to eligible elders and caregivers of elders. The LICSW employed last fiscal year continued providing psychotherapy and we briefly hired a psychiatric nurse practitioner as the number of referrals was very high. Unfortunately, that trend did not continue and the second therapist's contract was not renewed. The focus this fiscal year has been on marketing the Counseling Center to increase the numbers of elders and caregivers served. Through the end of June 08, there were 25 elders and caregivers served with a total of 102 psychotherapy sessions provided.

SENIOR HEALTH SERVICES UPDATE

Since late October 2007, Senior Health Services under the management of Director Lisa White, RN BS, has been offering clinic services to community seniors at the Senior Center on Mondays and Thursdays. By the end of June, 325 clinic visits were logged for 71 community clients. Health services including blood pressure monitoring, blood glucose testing, medication information, weight monitoring, respiratory assessment, nutrition information, wound and skin assessment, ear and throat inspection and assistance with care planning have been provided. The nurse often works in collaboration with the client and their health care provider. At times the clinic has served as a first stop for clients concerned about symptoms but unsure if medical attention is needed.

Some special programs have been provided by the nurse over the year. Additional clinical services have been provided to the community at the Ann Whalen Wellness Center on Thursday mornings since mid May. This post is covered through the school year by UMASS clinical supervisor and nursing students. As part of her work for the Wellness Center, the nurse saw clients individually and provided talks on Medicine Safety and Coping with Stress. In June, two presentations on diabetes diagnosis and management were provided at the Senior Center. Also at the Senior Center in June, pilot sessions for a support group concerned with the issues of aging called "Aging Together" were co-facilitated with spiritual counselor and bereavement specialist

Norma Palazzo. These sessions were well received by participants and a similar group is being planned for the fall.

It is important to note that the Amherst Senior Center's Senior Health Services program, receives no Town funding, but continues to grow and thrive thanks to donations and grants. The annual \$10,000 donation from Amherst residents Joseph and Dorothy Gavin is the primary funding for the Bangs-based twice-weekly clinics. Additionally this year, two grants were received to begin offering outreach nursing services: \$5,000 from Cooley Dickinson Hospital and \$1,625 from The Amherst Club.

UPDATE ON FOOD PROGRAMS

Our home-delivered **lunchtime** meals program which asks for only an optional donation from the participant, continues to grow at a fast pace as people are living longer and find it difficult to shop, cook and pay for food. As fuel costs increase, the home delivered meal becomes more and more important also as a means to afford other essentials. We have six meal delivery routes daily to residents in Amherst and Pelham and we use volunteer drivers exclusively. With the price of fuel increasing, fewer drivers are willing to donate their gas (now three do) and instead most opt for the \$.35/mile stipend. The stipend goes to \$.50/mile July 1, 2008. The \$.91 per meal we get from our HVES Title III grant to cover gas and other program expenses in FY 08 obviously doesn't cover the gas reimbursement for meal recipients living deep in Pelham or the far edges of Amherst. (Unfortunately we haven't been able to find any Pelham residents to assist in deliveries there.) The challenge of keeping drivers as fuel costs increase is a nationwide problem and ideas are being floated for how to cope, such as delivering frozen meals 2-3 times a week. We feel this would be a risky change as the well-being check, an important component of the service, would then be compromised. (Our deliverers have found several elders who have fallen or were semi-conscious or even deceased.) Additionally some elders are too frail to deal with frozen meals. Our drivers sometimes have to open the hot meal and bring the utensils to the recipient as some are so frail and disabled they can't manage those details.

Our home-delivered **supper-time** UMASS Meals on Wheels (MOWs) program has seen a slight decrease in participation. There were 13 fewer participants in the program this fiscal year as compared to FY 07. Additionally, there were more elders who were short term participants; these elders received the MOWs for a period of 2 – 4 weeks after a stay in a rehabilitation center or the hospital. During the intake these elders had stated that they needed the meals only until they'd regained their strength and could prepare meals on their own. The decrease could also be due to the cost of the program which was increased in May 07 due to rising fuel costs. There will be another increase beginning August 4, 2008, as UMASS has raised the cost of the meals. The continuing rise in fuel costs also play into this rate increase, as we need to retain our volunteer meal deliverers and to do this we changed our mileage stipend structure.

PARTICIPATION IN FREE/LOW COST FOOD PROGRAMS

Name of	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
Program					
Congregate Hot	5,933	6,467	6,973	6,147 (11%	5,420 (11.8%
Lunch		(9%	(13.78%	decrease)	decrease)
		increase)	increase)		(If no snow days we
					would have served
					5490 meals and then
					the decrease would
					have been 10.7%)
Meals on	3,796	3,843	4,250	5,006 (17%	4,790 (4% decrease)
Wheels (UMass		(1%	(11%	increase)	If no snow days we
food delivered		increase)	increase)		would have served
in evening)					140 more and seen
					only a 2% decrease
Home delivered	12,889	13,6639	14,435	16,118 (11%	16,749 (4% increase)
meals		(6%	(6%	increase)	If no snow we would
(HVES food		increase)	increase)		have delivered 16961
delivered at 11					meals and then the
AM)					increase would have
					been 9.5%
Brown Bag	696	735 (5%	1,035	1,017	1,016
(Western Mass		increase)	(41%	(1% decrease)	(>1% change)
Food Bank)			increase)		
Food Box	298	453	450 (>1%	529 (17%	483 (9% decrease)
(Survival Center		(52%	change)	increase)	
food)		increase)			
Free Bread &	2,080	2,543	5,282	5,493 (3%	4960 (10% decrease)
Produce		(22%	(52%	increase)	
Giveaway		increase)	increase)		
Grocery Pantry	29	82	102 (20%	115 (12%	38 (67% decrease)
Emergency		(283%	increase)	increase)	
Food Give-away		increase)			

"FRIENDS OF THE AMHERST SENIOR CENTER"

The Friends of the Amherst Senior Center, a 501C-3 corporation established in 2007, raised \$6,350 in FY 08 to help support the services and programs of the Senior Center. Most of the money came as a result of a letter from the Friends enclosed in *The Senior Spirit*, the bi-monthly newsletter of the Senior Center. The newly-established Friends group is just beginning to investigate other fundraising ideas.

BUDGET CUTS

Our Program Coordinator who was full-time (37.5/hrs) in FY 06, was reduced to four days a week (30/hrs) in FY 07, and to 20 hrs/wk in FY 08. The long-time employee in that position left as a consequence and the salary level was downgraded before a replacement was hired. The entire salary is paid by a Dept. of Elder Affairs Formula Grant (\$19,383 in FY 08). Our Program Coordinator serves primarily as our Volunteer Coordinator, but she also has responsibilities associated with our food programs. Our Center Activities line item has been reduced from \$6,500

to \$3,000, our Office Supplies from \$1,500 to \$1000 and our dues & memberships line item has been reduced from \$600 to \$360.

TRANSPORTATION CRISIS ELIMINATED

The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) awarded the paratransit contract for this area to Hulmes Transportation, an area transportation provider that had the contract prior to MV Transportation. The transition from MV to Hulmes went fairly smoothly with very few glitches. Feedback from elders and younger people with disabilities who utilize the van services has been mostly positive. Additionally, PVTA has re-instituted monthly meetings with PVTA area Senior Center/Council On Aging directors, a rider advisory council, and monthly rider meetings which are facilitated by Nicole Rohan, PVTA Director of Transit Services. Due to the high cost of fuel and how the PVTA is funded by the state, on July 1st, there will be the 25% increase in ticket prices for the large buses, from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per ride. This means that van tickets for elders and people with disabilities will cost \$2.50 as the ADA states that paratransit van services can not charge more than double the regular bus fare. The Town subsidy will lower the cost to \$2.00 per ticket, but many, many people who use the paratransit services are on a fixed income and this extra cost is on top of higher food prices and higher heating fuel costs.

SENIOR CENTER CHOSEN AS SITE FOR EXCITING NEW FITNESS PROGRAM

The Amherst and Northampton Senior Centers are serving as two regional pilot sites for Enhance Fitness®, a program being studied by the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and grant-funded by Highland Valley Elder Services, our AAA (Area Agency on Aging). This hour-long class, which takes place three times a week, is based on scientific research and input from older adults and combines three key components of fitness: strength training, flexibility and cardiovascular conditioning. Classes are limited to 25 persons and we have had an extensive waiting list for each of the three nine-week sessions.

SENIOR CENTER HOSTS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION RESEARCH STUDY

The Smith College School of Social Work and UMass Computer Science Department received a grant from the National Science Foundation to find ways that technology can help seniors stay safely in their own homes as they age. The grant paid for state-of-the-art computer equipment some of which was installed in the Senior Center's computer lab last fall to simulate a "smart room". Prior to the installation phase, seniors, their family members and elder care professionals met with the research team to make the technology useful and easy to use. Elders who have enrolled in the study have received some instruction and next they will learn (1) how the computer and a video camera can help find misplaced objects such as glasses or a remote, (2) how the computer can help detect the likelihood that someone could fall (digital films of gait and movement of research team "actors" will demonstrate how changes that can lead to falls can be detected), and (3) how to stay in touch with family, friends and professionals by videophone. Elder participants have already learned how to keep track of daily appointments and how to use computer games to provide mental stimulation and enjoyment.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Although resources through the Town budget are limited, the Senior Center is able to offer a wide array of programs and services because of two important categories of contributions: **volunteer time** and **in-kind donations of goods and services.**

In FY 08 approximately 10,790 of volunteer time was given by 265 volunteers in the following categories:

# of Hours Given	# of Volunteers
20 hours/week or more	1
5 hrs/wk up to 19.5 hrs/wk	11
1-5 hrs/wk	39
10hrs/yr to 50hrs/yr	121
Less than 10 hrs/yr	129

The value of these hours, according to the Points of Light Foundation is \$170,776.35

In-kind donations represent tangible goods or services generally considered essential for the Senior Center's operations, but not paid for out of its budget. **See the table below summarizing FY 08 In-Kind donations:**

In-Kind Donation	Value
Rent/Space (gross square feet=7,399)	\$73,000 value
Transportation	\$4,719.68
Utilities	\$46,511
Van Garaging, Gas & Service	\$1,068
Custodial/Maintenance	\$19,000
Plowing/Outside Maintenance	\$604
Durable Medical Equipment	\$258
Recognition Events	\$322
Donated Goods	\$1,557.25
Value of Crafts Made & Sold for Sr.	\$811
Ctr.	
Newspapers	\$7,750
Speakers/Presenters	\$34,077
Entertainers	\$708
Money donated, raised	\$29,138.25
Luncheons, food	\$232,518.16
Cable TV Service	\$540
Books/Videos/Puzzles	\$200
Information Technology Hardware	\$2,000
Total	\$457,441.34

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Hirsh Pagano, Director

TOWN/COMMERCIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

CLARIFICATION OF OUR CHARGE

The Town/Commercial Relations Committee (TCRC) has the following charge and approach to its responsibilities:

- We advise the Select Board and Town Manager on issues affecting commerce in Amherst and the business community.
- We provide a business perspective on changes to parking regulations and the assessment of parking needs in the Town.
- We act as a conduit for suggestions, comments and complaints for the Town's current business community.
- We perceive ourselves as a think tank, considering "big ideas" and futuristic possibilities for Amherst and responding to the needs of Town Meeting and Select Board for this thinking, but also lead the way.
- We are pro-business development because such development is an essential tool for protecting and enhancing the nature of Amherst. We want sustainable, smart growth, not growth for growth's sake; we are looking for businesses with a good fit to existing businesses, not superstores.

The TCRC needs to operate at full strength, so there is a need to fill vacancies in a timely fashion with qualified, representative people in the right mix of business and at large members. The TCRC has gone for long periods with too few members, and this affects our ability to meet and effectively carry out our charge.

The Select Board needs to seriously consider recommendations and policy proposals brought forward by the TCRC, as we are one of the few citizen boards in town directly addressing the local economy and advocating for the business community.

The TCRC has not recently been consulted on matters relating to Parking. We suggest that either the Select Board refer parking matters to us or amend our charge to remove the responsibility and reduce the number of members on the Committee accordingly.

DISCUSSIONS ENGAGED IN AND ACTIONS TAKEN

- Permitting process
 - Met with the Zoning Board of Appeals
 - Urged a streamlining of the process to eliminate or greatly reduce the image of a Business un-friendly environment.
 - Urged the change of current practice of having Special Permits expire on Change of Ownership
 - Urged a change to review process on existing Special permits to narrow the focus of review and not engage in a comprehensive detail review every time a permit is modified
 - o Met with the Zoning Sub Committee of the Planning Board
 - Helped to develop and supported rezoning articles for

- Professional Research Park Permitting technical/professional offices
- University Drive Limited Business (B-L) District Allowing R&D uses by right through an R&D overlay district
- College Street Expanding the Village Center Business (B-VC)
 District
- Spring Street Expanding the General Business (B-G) District
- Sunderland Road Rezoning two properties to Village Center Residence (R-VC)
- 2008 Annual Town Meeting
 - Supported the above rezoning articles
- Master Plan
 - TCRC members participated in *Planning Amherst Together* work groups on economic development and other master plan elements.

POSITIONS OR INITIATIVES THAT THE TCRC ENDORSES

Zoning

- There is limited available land remaining for business development in the Town and as a result real consideration should be given to rezoning remaining parcels for commercial/business uses.
- 2. Too often in the past the opinions of a few outspoken people have outweighed the benefit of zone changes to the Town as a whole.
- 3. We are sensitive to the needs of abutters regarding traffic problems, sidewalks and other infrastructure issues; however the use of "contract zoning" to extract up-front concessions from potential developers should be minimized, if used at all. Our economic viability and business growth will only be corrected with a "Long Term' vision rather than the short-sighted limitations that contract zoning seeks to impose.
- 4. The TCRC has started to attend and audit the meetings of Amherst's permitting boards and committees to determine if the review process, questioning and conditions placed on commercial permit applications is efficient, fair and balanced.

Respectfully submitted

Town Commercial Relations Committee Mark L. Parent Chair

TOWN MEETING COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2008

The Town Meeting Coordinating Committee, according to its charge in the Town Bylaw, serves Town Meeting to provide continuing leadership and organization to Town Meeting. Its seven members are elected by Town Meeting. TMCC works to make Town Meeting function well by helping members of Town Meeting and the public understand how Town Meeting works and by providing information to allow Town Meeting members to make informed votes on articles. It also tries to ensure that meeting procedures and the facilities in the auditorium for sessions serve Town Meeting well.

This year before the Special Fall Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting in the Spring, TMCC:

- held two information forums: an orientation to zoning in November and an introduction to the Community Preservation Act and Joint Capital Planning Committee programs in April.
- with the League of Women Voters of Amherst, held Warrant Review meetings, including an orientation for new Town Meeting members prior to the Spring Warrant Review.
- conducted bus tours to visit sites related to Warrant articles.
- arranged for live coverage and a number of rebroadcasts of the above events on ACTV Channel 17.
- prepared information materials for both Town mailings to Town Meeting members.
- encouraged and publicized precinct meetings.

In addition we:

- increased the number of subscribers to the TMCC email subscription list and the amount of information distributed.
- started an information shelf with Town publications in the Reference Section of the Jones Library.
- made DVDs of all TMCC information programs available to be checked out at the main desk of the Jones Library.
- launched a mentor program for new Town Meeting members.
- requested and received improvements to auditorium lighting for Town Meeting.
- met with the Town Manager to discuss Town Meeting.
- met with the director of ACTV to increase TV coverage and replays of information programs.
- notified Town Meeting members when their terms were expiring.
- reviewed suggestions about Town Meeting.
- worked to post our agendas and minutes on the Town Website as early as possible.
- met with the Town Moderator after Annual Town Meeting and agreed to meet with him at least once a year in order to work together on ways to make Town Meeting function well.

TMCC continues to strive to educate the members of Town Meeting, the people who make up the legislative body of our town government, to enable them to make informed votes on warrant articles.

We are very grateful for the help Kris Pacunas has given us to make information available on the Town Website and we look forward to new opportunities made possible by the redesigned site.

TMCC Members

Margaret R. Roberts, Chair H. Oldham Brooks, Vice-Chair Carol Jeannette Gray, Secretary Judy L. Simpson, Stacker

terms ended May 19, 2008
Philip S. Jackson
Stephanie J. O'Keeffe
Otto L. Stein

elected May 19, 2008
Nonny Burack
Aaron Hayden
Mary Streeter

Hwei-Ling Greeney, Select Board Liaison

VETERANS' SERVICES

Fiscal Year 2008

The Department of Veterans' Services continues to offer assistance to veterans' and their families through a number of Federal and State programs. The State veterans' benefit program provides temporary assistance to veterans and their families who qualify to receive benefits and can show need. These benefits provide for medical care and cash for living expenses.

The Department of Veterans' Services will also aid veterans and their families in the filing of federal forms that are necessary for them to receive a wide range of benefits provided by the Veterans' Administration. The Department now has access to many veteran-related internet sites and government agencies.

FISCAL YEAR 2008

State-Wide:

The Patrick-Murray administration launched a new program for veterans' empowerment and suicide prevention. Undersecretary for Veterans' Services, Coleman Nee, concluded the program by introducing the SAVE Outreach Coordinators who will travel throughout the state to meet with veterans and their families discussing the broad range of benefits and services available to them. Each Outreach Coordinator has been assigned a specific region within the Commonwealth where they will work in collaboration with local Veterans' Service Officers and existing community resources.

Dial-a-Lawyer for Veterans sponsored by the Massachusetts Bar Association and U.S. Trust in conjunction with the Department of Veteran Services is offering free legal advice for veterans who have legal questions involving access to benefits, family issues, employment concerns and landlord/tenant matters.

Locally:

The Veterans' Department with the assistance of the Veterans' Group sponsored a Veterans' Informational Fair this year in October at the Veterans of Foreign Wars building on Main Street.

The turnout for the Fair was low, only reaching about eight veterans. Upon reflection, this first year was a success in terms that we got a group of concerned veterans in this community together to assist our community. Next year has already been discussed and we will try to expand it to be county-wide and include surrounding communities in our outreach efforts.

The schools in Amherst were asked to help in the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. They responded favorably and we had more attendees for this year's parade than in the past.

Operation Recognition is a program that was expanded in the Welcome Home Package. It allows high schools to award diplomas to World War II, Korean, and Vietnam veterans who left school for good upon being drafted or enlisted in the military and have not continued on with their education. Along with the assistance of the Regional High School Principal and the Superintendent, this department sent out postcards searching for any veteran who would like to receive his/her high school diploma on the coming Veterans' Day.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Fiscal Year 2008

The Amherst Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) received thirty-seven (37) applications during FY 08; all were for Special Permits. By comparison, forty-three (43) applications were submitted in FY 07.

Thirty-two (32) of the Special Permit applications were granted with conditions, two (2) were withdrawn without prejudice, and three (3) were still pending as of the end of FY 08. No Special Permit applications were denied.

One of the applications, a 17-unit PURD condominium development called Strawberry Fields proposed for an open area along South East Street, has been the subject of ongoing review by the ZBA for the past three (3) years, beginning with 24 units and a different ZBA panel. This application was continued six (6) times during FY08. On July 29, 2008 the ZBA closed the hearing. The ZBA is currently preparing conditions to be considered for a final decision.

Seven (7) Special Permits were granted in FY 08 for an increase in the number of dwelling units on a property (e.g., conversion to a two-family, conversion of existing detached barns, and the new supplemental apartments). These permits may result in a total of six (6) new dwelling units. Other residential activity included the approval of two (2) new flag lots and the renewal of three (3) previously-permitted flag lots. The new flag lots and dwelling units received development authorization dates under Section 14 of the Zoning Bylaw.

Special Permits of general interest included:

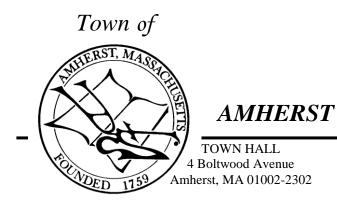
- The Hanger (restaurant) on University Drive was granted approval to add twenty (20) new parking spaces
- Watroba's (convenience store) on Sunderland Road was granted approval for the conversion of the first floor to include four (4) boarding suites, a manager's apartment, and office space
- Birdsong Bed & Breakfast at 815 South East Street was granted approval to provide lodging for up to six (6) guests
- Omnipoint was granted approval for a new wireless communication tower at the site of the old landfill on Belchertown Road, and was granted a modification to replace six (6) wireless antennas and add two (2) new antennas in the steeple/bell tower of St. Brigid's Catholic Church on North Pleasant Street
- The Alexander Technique School on Lessey Street was granted approval for parking improvements to an existing educational use
- Bank of America was granted approval to reconstruct and operate a drive-through ATM to replace their full service bank at the corner of East Pleasant Street and Triangle Street that had been destroyed by fire
- A home occupation was approved for a fashion design business at 46 Snell Street

Zoning Board of Appeals FY08 Membership:

MembersAssociate MembersTom Simpson, ChairHilda GreenbaumBarbara Ford, Vice-chairAl WoodhullJane Ashby, ClerkEric BealTed Rising

The ZBA met fifty-one (51) times during FY 08. Planning Department staff members Christine Brestrup, Senior Planner, and Carolyn Holstein, Zoning Assistant, provided staff support to the Zoning Board of Appeals during FY 08.

In FY 09, an updated ZBA section on the Town website is planned, including meeting agendas and decisions from FY 05 to the present.



Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER PH: (413) 256-4026 FX: (413) 256-4007 accounting@amherstma.gov

Town Comptroller

Fiscal Year 2007

The accompanying pages include the Town of Amherst's unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Sonia Aldrich Comptroller

Table of Contents

Combined Balance Sheet – All Fund Types and Account Groups

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity – All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Funds

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity – All Proprietary Fund Types and Similar Trust Funds

Statement of Revenues and Other Sources and Expenditures and Other Uses – Budget and Actual – General Fund

Statement of Revenues and Other Sources and Expenditures and Other Uses - Budget and Actual - Sewer Fund, Water Fund, Solid Waste Fund and Transportation

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and changes in Fund Equity –Internal Service, includes Health Claims Trust Fund and Workers Compensation Fund.

Health Claims Trust Fund – Detailed Income Statement.

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and changes in Fund Equity – Stabilization Fund and Property and Casualty Insurance Claims.

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and changes in Fund Equity –Expendable and Non-Expendable Trust Funds

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and changes in Fund Equity –Expendable and Non-Expendable Trust Funds- Detail Income Statement

FY 2008 Approved Budget – General Fund

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups On June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types		Proprietary F	Fund Types	Fiduciary Account Fund Types Groups		Totals	
		Special	Capital	1 Toprictary I	Internal	Trust and	Long-term	(Memorandum
ASSETS	General	Revenue	Projects	Enterprise	Services	Agency	Debt	Only)
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,687,767.55	\$ 3.773.564.85	\$ 2,578,456.45	\$ 4.943.772.72	\$ 2.842.062.46	\$ 1,561,826.58		\$ 22,387,450.61
Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Receivables:								
Property taxes	602,432.49	_	_	14.273.28	_	-		616.705.77
Special assessments	-	182,032.14	_	- 1,-1	_	_		182,032.14
Tax liens and foreclosures	319,871.47	649.02	_	13,436.54	_	-		333,957.03
Excises	328,824.33	-	_	-	_	-		328,824.33
Utility Charges	-	_	_	932.569.21	_	_		932,569.21
Departmental	_	552,058.02	_	362,925.15	_	18,021.47		933,004.64
Deposits receivable	_	-	_	-	_	-		-
Other receivables	83.178.74	44,381.78	_	_	_	_		127,560.52
Due from other governments	107,052.39	806,501.84	_	_	_	_		913,554.23
Cash and cash equivalents (LSSE Prepaids)	.0.,002.00	45,524.23						45,524.23
Inventory	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation	20,823,120.74	-	-	22,485,917.30	-	-		43,309,038.04
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds	-	63,115.00	-	4,942,539.71	-	-	\$ 4,337,459.99	9,343,114.70
Amounts to be provided - vacation and sick leave						<u> </u>		
Total Assets	\$ 28,952,247.71	\$ 5,467,826.88	\$ 2,578,456.45	\$ 33,695,433.91	\$ 2,842,062.46	\$ 1,579,848.05	\$ 4,337,459.99	\$ 79,453,335.45
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								
Deferred revenue	\$ 1,327,243.02	\$ 1,208,893.25	\$ -	\$ 1,323,204.18	\$ -	\$ 18,021.47		\$ 3,877,361.92
Provision for abatements and exemptions	305,678.20	-	-	-	-	-		305,678.20
Accounts payable	-	-	-	-	1,112,298.00	-		1,112,298.00
Accrued payroll and withholdings	1,590,145.70	44,661.74	-	-	-	-		1,634,807.44
Other liabilities	495,359.81	12,705.25	-	-	-	218,663.22		726,728.28
Bonds payable	-	63,115.00	-	4,942,539.71	-	-	\$ 4,337,459.99	9,343,114.70
Notes payable	-	427,000.00	855,000.00	-	-	-		1,282,000.00
Vacation and sick leave liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Liabilities	3,718,426.73	1,756,375.24	855,000.00	6,265,743.89	1,112,298.00	236,684.69	4,337,459.99	18,281,988.54
								•
Fund Equity:								
Reserved for encumbrances	278,456.15	54,856.77	386,432.07	529,012.50	-	-		1,248,757.49
Reserved for expenditures	425,000.00	2,068,818.00	-	457,978.00	-	-		2,951,796.00
Reserved for continuing appropriations	-	-	2,339,486.00	773,763.98	-	-		3,113,249.98
Reserved for Revenue deficit				-				-
Reserved for appropriation deficit	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Reserved for endowments	-	-	-	-	-	316,188.64		316,188.64
Unreserved, designated	(169,528.00)	50,000.00	-	94,008.90	-	-		(25,519.10)
Unreserved, undesignated	3,894,881.74	1,537,776.87	(1,002,461.62)	-	1,729,764.46	1,026,974.72		7,186,936.17
Unreserved retained earnings	-	-	-	3,089,009.34	-	-		3,089,009.34
Investment in capital assets	20,823,120.74	-	-	22,485,917.30	-	-		43,309,038.04
Reserved for overlay deficits	(18,109.65)	-	-	-	-	-		(18,109.65)
Reserved for over/under assessments								
Total Fund Equity	25,233,820.98	3,711,451.64	1,723,456.45	27,429,690.02	1,729,764.46	1,343,163.36		61,171,346.91
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 28,952,247.71	\$ 5,467,826.88	\$ 2,578,456.45	\$ 33,695,433.91	\$ 2,842,062.46	\$ 1,579,848.05	\$ 4,337,459.99	\$ 79,453,335.45

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

	Go	vernmental Fund Typ	100	Fiduciary Fund Types	Totals
		Special	Capital	Expendable	(Memorandum
	General	Revenue	Projects	Trust	Only)
Revenues:					
Property taxes	33,251,759.40	346,705.95	-	-	33,598,465.35
Excise	1,631,329.30	-	-	-	1,631,329.30
Interest, penalties and other taxes	1,074,819.11	-	-	-	1,074,819.11
Charges for services	-	3,291,905.50	-	-	3,291,905.50
Licenses and permits	888,616.10	-	-	-	888,616.10
Intergovernmental	17,473,199.40	3,500,707.61	-	-	20,973,907.01
Fines and forfeits	151,061.61	-	-	-	151,061.61
Interest earnings	431,421.35	43,193.58	-	32,243.40	506,858.33
Miscellaneous	2,636,395.01	629,872.09	37,675.67	25,763.07	3,329,705.84
Audit Adjustment					-
Contributions	-	331,151.40	-	-	331,151.40
Total Revenues	57,538,601.28	8,143,536.13	37,675.67	58,006.47	65,777,819.55
Expenditures:					
General Government	8,549,643.67	36,465.00	413,522.22	23,970.33	9,023,601.22
Public Safety	8,129,158.52	496,809.00	343,116.42	-	8,969,083.94
Public Works	1,870,258.35	1,228,147.21	564,407.77	-	3,662,813.33
Planning, Conservation and Inspections	755,846.68	565,264.70	373,422.90	-	1,694,534.28
Community Services	1,788,750.41	1,783,729.00	123,976.93	-	3,696,456.34
Library Services	1,563,260.15	47,998.32	31,661.82	-	1,642,920.29
Education	32,439,294.03	1,285,590.33	432,829.67	-	34,157,714.03
Debt Service	958,973.24	5,270.00	-	-	964,243.24
Intergovernmental	2,036,114.10	-	-	-	2,036,114.10
Total Expenditures	58,091,299.15	5,449,273.56	2,282,937.73	23,970.33	65,847,480.77
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(552,697.87)	2,694,262.57	(2,245,262.06)	34,036.14	(69,661.22)
77,	(, ,	, ,	(, -, ,	,,,,,,	(, ,
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Bond Proceeds	-	-	-	-	-
Operating transfers in	2,831,724.00	-	2,259,956.00	-	5,091,680.00
Operating transfers (out)	(1,811,585.00)	(2,644,733.00)	(426,478.00)	-	(4,882,796.00)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,020,139.00	(2,644,733.00)	1,833,478.00	-	208,884.00
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources					
over expenditures and other uses	467,441.13	49,529.57	(411,784.06)	34,036.14	139,222.78
Fund Equity, July 1, 2007	3,943,259.11	3,661,922.07	2,135,240.51	896,196.12	10,636,617.81
	-				-
Fund Equity, June 30, 2008	\$ 4,410,700.24	\$ 3,711,451.64	\$ 1,723,456.45	\$ 930,232.26	\$ 10,775,840.59

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and

Changes in Fund Equity All Proprietary Fund and Similar Trust Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

	Ent	erprise		ernal ervice	F Nor	Fiduciary und Types n-expendable rust Funds	(M	Totals emorandum Only)
Revenues:	•		Φ.		Φ.		•	
Property taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Excise		-		-		-		-
Interest, penalties and other taxes	0.4	- E7.044.0E	11 00	- 0.076.40		-	20	-
Charges for services	8,4	57,014.25	11,69	9,376.43		-	20),156,390.68
Licenses and permits		- 20 EZE 00		-		-		-
Intergovernmental		22,575.00		-		-		22,575.00
Fines and forfeits	4	- 04.0 7 0.40	2	-		- 10 000 FF		-
Interest earnings		94,972.40	3	6,908.22		12,993.55		244,874.17
Miscellaneous	2.	22,648.76		(86.46)		3,500.00		226,062.30
Contributions Total Revenues	8.8	97,210.41	11.73	6,198.19		16,493.55	20),649,902.15
Expenditures:			,			,		
General Government		-	9,73	5,001.98		-	(9,735,001.98
Public Safety		-		-		-		-
Public Works	6,8	82,463.53		-		-	(5,882,463.53
Planning, Conservation and Inspections		-		-		-		-
Community Services		-		-		5,109.42		5,109.42
Library Services		-		-		-		-
Education		. .		-		-		-
Debt Service	1,1	67,593.25		-		-	1	1,167,593.25
Intergovernmental		-		-		-		
Total Expenditures	8,0	50,056.78	9,73	5,001.98		5,109.42	17	7,790,168.18
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	8	47,153.63	2,00	1,196.21		11,384.13	2	2,859,733.97
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Bond Proceeds		-		-		-		-
Operating transfers in	8	87,000.00	56	2,207.00		-	•	,449,207.00
Operating transfers (out)	(1,6	58,091.00)		-		-	(1	(00.1658,091,00)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(7	71,091.00)	56	2,207.00		-		(208,884.00)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses		76,062.63	2,56	3,403.21		11,384.13	2	2,650,849.97
Fund Equity, July 1, 2007	4.8	67,710.09	(73	1,335.75)		401,546.97	4	1,537,921.31
Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08		- ,		2,303.00)		2.,2.0.0.		(102,303.00)
Fund Equity, June 30, 2008	\$ 4,9	43,772.72		9,764.46	\$	412,931.10	\$ 7	7,086,468.28
• •								

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Statement of Revenues and Other Sources and Expenditures and Other Uses Budget and Actual - General Fund For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

			Variance
			Favorable
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Property taxes	33,052,285.00	33,251,759.40	199,474.40
Excise	1,475,000.00	1,631,329.30	156,329.30
Penalties, interest and other taxes	1,085,958.00	1,074,819.11	(11,138.89)
Licenses and permits	784,035.00	888,616.10	104,581.10
Intergovernmental	17,450,199.00	17,473,199.40	23,000.40
Fines and forfeits	163,000.00	151,061.61	(11,938.39)
Interest earnings	350,000.00	431,421.35	81,421.35
Miscellaneous	2,059,073.00	2,842,881.74	783,808.74
Contributions	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfers in	2,542,290.00	2,542,290.00	0.00
Other Sources (free cash and overlay)	831,423.00	831,423.00	0.00
Total Revenues and Other Sources	59,793,263.00	61,118,801.01	1,325,538.01
Expenditures and Other Uses:			
General Government	5,644,074.00	5,627,680.99	16,393.01
Special Appropriations	2,920,979.00	2,920,979.00	0.00
Public Safety	8,075,970.00	8,063,272.41	12,697.59
Public Works	1,859,566.00	1,859,422.91	143.09
Planning, Conservation and Inspections	802,881.00	802,422.66	458.34
Community Services	1,680,604.00	1,680,488.08	115.92
Library Services	1,569,084.00	1,563,910.15	5,173.85
Education	31,841,903.00	31,840,942.85	960.15
Debt Service	976,002.00	958,973.24	17,028.76
Region and Deferred Teachers Pay	515,357.00	530,605.41	(15,248.41)
Intergovernmental-Assessments	2,095,258.00	2,038,739.96	56,518.04
Transfers Out	1,811,585.00	1,811,585.00	0.00
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	59,793,263.00	59,699,022.66	94,240.34
Excess of revenues and other sources			
over expenditures and other uses	0.00	1,419,778.35	1,419,778.35

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS Statement of Revenues and Other Sources, and Expenses and Other Uses Budget and Actual - Sewer Fund For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

			Variance Favorable
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Charges for services	\$ 3,571,878	\$ 3,563,437	\$ (8,441)
Interest earnings	31,000	66,793	35,793
Other sources	54,000	66,606	12,606
Total Revenues and Other Sources	3,656,878	3,696,836	39,958
E			
Expenses and Other Uses:	A 4 070 500	4 400 005	4.40.400
Personnel	\$ 1,276,593	1,128,095	148,498
Purchase of services	912,700	909,023	3,677
Supplies	38,700	38,423	277
Other charges and expenses	322,007	300,275	21,732
Transfers	296,400	296,400	-
Capital outlay	462,000	462,000	-
Debt service	348,478	343,728	4,751
Other uses			
Total Expenses and Other Uses	3,656,878	3,477,944	178,934
Excess of revenues and other sources			
over expenses and other uses	\$ -	\$ 218,893	\$ 218,893

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS Statement of Revenues and Other Sources, and Expenses and Other Uses Budget and Actual - Water Fund For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

			Variance Favorable
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Charges for services	\$ 3,720,000	\$ 3,731,484	\$ 11,484
Interest earnings	60,000	73,084	13,084
Other sources	127,453	178,618	51,165
Total Revenues and Other Sources	3,907,453	3,983,186	75,733
Functions and Other Head			
Expenses and Other Uses:	4 070 040	005.005	74.000
Personnel	1,070,948	995,965	74,983
Purchase of services	524,800	547,911	(23,111)
Supplies	124,950	132,225	(7,275)
Other charges and expenses	651,022	640,289	10,733
Transfers	385,742	385,742	-
Capital outlay	425,000	425,000	-
Debt service	724,991	724,991	(0)
Other uses			
Total Expenses and Other Uses	3,907,453	3,852,124	55,329
Excess of revenues and other sources			
over expenses and other uses	\$ -	\$ 131,062	\$ 131,062

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS Statement of Revenues and Other Sources, and Expenses and Other Uses Budget and Actual - Solid Waste Fund For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

			Variance Favorable
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:			
Charges for services	\$ 390,300	\$ 338,455	(51,845)
Intergovernmental			-
Interest earnings	30,000	31,205	1,205
Other sources (sale of fixed assets)	102,951	114,782	11,831
Total Revenues and Other Sources	523,251	484,443	(38,808)
Expenses and Other Uses:			
Personnel	244,615	230,525	14,091
Purchase of services	212,200	236,006	(23,806)
Supplies	5,200	4,080	1,120
Other charges and expenses	61,236	48,502	12,734
Transfers			-
Capital outlay		-	-
Debt service			-
Other uses			
Total Expenses and Other Uses	523,251	519,113	4,138
Excess of revenues and other sources			
over expenses and other uses	\$ -	\$ (34,670)	(34,670)

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS Statement of Revenues and Other Sources, and Expenses and Other Uses Budget and Actual -Transportation Fund For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

	Pudgot	Actual	Variance Favorable
Davidada and Other Carres	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
Revenues and Other Sources:	A 22 - 1 - 2	A 0 - 4 404	(00.000)
Charges for services	\$ 897,453	\$ 871,424	(26,029)
Intergovernmental			-
Interest earnings	10,000	11,725	1,725
Other sources			-
Total Revenues and Other Sources	907,453	883,149	(24,304)
Expenses and Other Uses:			
Personnel	203,962	201,105	2,857
Purchase of services	58,857	59,739	(882)
Supplies	13,000	8,259	4,741
Other charges and expenses	443,811	437,321	6,490
Transfers	88,949	88,949	-
Capital outlay	33,313	00,010	_
Debt service	98,874	98,874	0
Other uses	30,07 4	30,07 4	_
	007.452	904 247	13,206
Total Expenses and Other Uses	907,453	894,247	13,200
Excess of revenues and other sources			
over expenses and other uses	\$ -	\$ (11,098)	(11,098)
2.2. 2.ponoco ana omor acco		+ (,550)	(11,000)

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and

Changes in Fund Equity All Internal Service Funds

For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

Revenues: Property taxes Excise Interest, penalties and other taxes Charges for services Charges for services Intergovernmental Intergovernmental Fines and forfeits Intergovernmental Contributions Total Revenues Total Revenues Seneral Government Public Safety Public Works Planning, Conservation and Inspections Community Services Library Services Library Services Intergovernmental Total Expenditures: General Government Set Service Planning, Conservation and Inspections Community Services Library Services Library Services Intergovernmental Total Expenditures: General Government Set Service Intergovernmental Total Expenditures Seducation Debt Service Intergovernmental Total Expenditures Seducation Debt Service Intergovernmental Total Expenditures Sexues (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure Sexues (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure Sexues (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure Sexues (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses Sexues (deficiency) of revenues and other uses Sexues (def		7401 Health Insurance	7402 Workers' Compensation	Total
Excise	Revenues:			
Interest, penalties and other taxes	• •			-
Charges for services 11,623,009.73 76,366.70 11,699,376.43 Licenses and permits - - Fines and forfeits - - Interest earnings 20,213.50 16,694.72 36,908.22 Miscellaneous (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) Contributions - - 11,643,136.77 93,061.42 11,736,198.19 Expenditures: General Government 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Public Safety - - - - Public Works - - - - Planning, Conservation and Inspections - - - - - Community Services - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -				-
Licenses and permits	•	44 600 000 70	70,000,70	-
Intergovernmental	•	11,623,009.73	76,306.70	11,099,376.43
Fines and forfeits				- -
Interest earnings 20,213.50 16,694.72 36,908.22 Miscellaneous (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (86.46) (8	<u> </u>			-
Contributions - - Total Revenues 11,643,136.77 93,061.42 11,736,198.19 Expenditures: General Government 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Public Safety - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		20,213.50	16,694.72	36,908.22
Total Revenues	_			
Expenditures: General Government 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Public Safety Public Works Planning, Conservation and Inspections Community Services Library Services Library Service Intergovernmental Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00)				
General Government 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Public Safety - - Public Works - - Planning, Conservation and Inspections - - Community Services - - Library Services - - Education - - Debt Service - - Intergovernmental - - Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.	Total Revenues	11,643,136.77	93,061.42	11,736,198.19
General Government 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Public Safety - - Public Works - - Planning, Conservation and Inspections - - Community Services - - Library Services - - Education - - Debt Service - - Intergovernmental - - Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Social Services - - Bond Proceeds - - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 - Operating transfers (out) - - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 <td< td=""><td>- P</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td<>	- P			
Public Safety - Public Works - Planning, Conservation and Inspections - Community Services - Library Services - Education - Debt Service - Intergovernmental - Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 - Operating transfers (out) - - - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	•	0 625 256 10	00 745 70	0.725.004.00
Public Works - Planning, Conservation and Inspections - Community Services - Library Services - Education - Debt Service - Intergovernmental - Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)		9,033,230.19	99,745.79	9,735,001.96
Planning, Conservation and Inspections - Community Services - Library Services - Education - Debt Service - Intergovernmental - Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): - - - Bond Proceeds - - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	•			- -
Community Services - Library Services - Education - Debt Service - Intergovernmental - Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)				-
Education - Debt Service - Intergovernmental - Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	The state of the s			-
Debt Service	Library Services			-
Intergovernmental Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98				-
Total Expenditures 9,635,256.19 99,745.79 9,735,001.98 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds - - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)				-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure 2,007,880.58 (6,684.37) 2,001,196.21 Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds	<u> </u>	0.005.050.40		
Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	Total Expenditures	9,635,256.19	99,745.79	9,735,001.98
Bond Proceeds - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure	2,007,880.58	(6,684.37)	2,001,196.21
Bond Proceeds - Operating transfers in 562,207.00 Operating transfers (out) - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Operating transfers (out) - Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) (102,303.00) (102,303.00) (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	· , ,			-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 562,207.00 - 562,207.00 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) (102,303.00) (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	Operating transfers in	562,207.00		562,207.00
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) (102,303.00) (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	. ,			
sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	562,207.00		562,207.00
sources over expenditures and other uses 2,570,087.58 (6,684.37) 2,563,403.21 Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	Evenes (deficiency) of revenues and other			
Fund Equity, July 1, 2007 (1,121,888.20) 390,552.45 (731,335.75) Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	•	2 570 087 58	(6 684 37)	2 563 403 21
Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	odaroco over experialiares ana otrici ases	2,010,001.00	(0,007.01)	2,000,700.21
Net IBNR Adjustment from FY07 to FY08 (102,303.00) (102,303.00)	Fund Equity, July 1, 2007	(1,121,888.20)	390,552.45	(731,335.75)
Fund Equity, June 30, 2008 \$ 1,345,896.38 \$ 383,868.08 \$ 1,729,764.46				
	Fund Equity, June 30, 2008	\$ 1,345,896.38	\$ 383,868.08	\$ 1,729,764.46

Health Claims Trust Fund Detail Income Statement Fiscal Year 2008

	ACTUAL Jul-07	ACTUAL Aug-07	ACTUAL Sep-07	ACTUAL Oct-07	ACTUAL Nov-07	ACTUAL Dec-07	ACTUAL Jan-08	ACTUAL Feb-08	ACTUAL Mar-08	ACTUAL Apr-08	ACTUAL May-08	ACTUAL Jun-08	TOTALS
Fund Balance Beginning of Month \$	(111,893.20) \$	163,059.11 \$	398,610.47 \$	451,957.01 \$	474,121.54 \$	563,695.06 \$	1,293,120.99 \$	1,560,424.19	1,820,837.84 \$	1,940,447.28 \$	1,901,033.88 \$	2,208,858.55	
Premium Revenue BC/BS:	00.450.07	04.000.07	0400007 6	04.000.07	0400007 0	0400007 6	04.000.07	05 540 00 4	05.540.00 0	04.000.07	04 000 07 0	0400007 0	000 440 40
Town of Amherst-PPO \$	23,156.37 \$	24,206.37 \$	24,206.37 \$	24,206.37 \$	24,206.37 \$	24,206.37 \$	24,206.37 \$	25,549.86		24,206.37 \$		24,206.37 \$	292,113.42
Retirees-PPO \$	42,158.82 \$	38,815.91 \$	38,552.75 \$	40,595.34 \$	40,595.34 \$	38,910.09 \$	38,348.34 \$	37,786.59	, ,	,	,	38,568.33 \$	469,254.76
TEFRA \$	561.75 \$	561.75 \$	561.75 \$	561.75 \$	561.75 \$	561.75 \$	561.75 \$	561.75				561.75 \$	6,741.00
Amherst School-PPO \$	32,267.31 \$	33,049.05 \$	33,049.05 \$	30,582.06 \$	32,267.31 \$	28,578.60 \$	30,142.08 \$	29,580.33	28,456.83 \$	29,018.58 \$	29,018.58 \$	29,018.58 \$	365,028.36
Regional School-PPO \$	38,666.55 \$	38,666.55 \$	35,417.82 \$	29,702.10 \$	31,045.59 \$	31,045.59 \$	31,045.59 \$	31,045.59		31,045.59 \$	29,482.11 \$	29,140.35 \$	387,349.02
Town of Pelham-PPO \$ Town of Amherst-HMO \$	3,028.74 \$	3,028.74 \$	3,028.74 \$	2,466.99 \$ 11.185.43 \$	2,466.99 \$ 9.932.42 \$	2,466.99 \$ 9.932.42 \$	2,466.99 \$ 10.661.52 \$	2,466.99	Ξ, .00.00 ψ	2,426.74 \$ 12.233.25 \$	2,507.24 \$ 11.709.34 \$	2,466.99 \$ 13.281.07 \$	31,289.13
Amherst School-HMO \$	11,914.53 \$	11,185.43 \$	11,185.43 \$, •	-,	-,	-,	10,661.52		,	,	-, +	135,067.79
Regional School-HMO \$	20,284.91 \$ 39,183.90 \$	19,113.87 \$ 41.689.92 \$	19,113.87 \$ 39,707.81 \$	30,299.30 \$ 45,243.76 \$	32,918.85 \$ 45.243.76 \$	35,630.06 \$ 45,357.29 \$	37,930.89 \$ 47.134.21 \$	36,153.97 § 46,929.02 §	. ,	37,725.70 \$ 47.452.93 \$	37,725.70 \$ 47.452.93 \$	38,249.61 \$ 47.452.93 \$	383,077.62 539,253.57
Town of Pelham-HMO \$	3,553.84 \$	3.029.93 \$	3.029.93 \$	45,245.76 \$	45,243.76 \$	45,357.29 \$	47,134.21 \$	40,929.02 \$	40,405.11 \$ 6 4.282.94 \$	47,452.95 \$	47,452.95 \$	47,452.93 \$	48.160.16
Retirees-HMO \$	1,776.92 \$	1,776.92 \$	1,776.92 \$	1,776.92 \$	3.029.93 \$	3,029.93 \$	3.029.93 \$	3,029.93	,	3.029.93 \$, +	3.029.93 \$	31,347.12
OME \$	39,862.68 \$	41,816.67 \$	39.804.67 \$	39,862.72 \$	39,862.68 \$	39,862.68 \$	40,257.36 \$	40,257.36	,	40,257.36 \$	- /	40,257.36 \$	482,616.26
Premium Revenue HP:	39,002.00 \$	41,010.07 \$	39,004.07 \$	39,002.72 \$	39,002.00 \$	39,002.00 ф	40,237.30 \$	40,237.30	9 40,237.30 \$	40,237.30 \$	40,237.30 \$	40,237.30 \$	402,010.20
Town of Amherst-PPO \$	175.771.44 \$	174.607.20 \$	173.214.96 \$	173.214.96 \$	170.076.36 \$	167.874.00 \$	163.115.16 \$	163.571.16	161.368.80 \$	160.558.68 \$	161.950.92 \$	165,773.52 \$	2,011,097.16
Retirees-PPO \$	57.621.72 \$	57.621.72 \$	57.621.72 \$	58.211.08 \$	57.828.96 \$	59,803.32 \$	61.362.24 \$	61.362.24	. ,	,	- ,	59.492.28 \$	710.565.76
Amherst School-PPO \$	173,797.08 \$	173.214.96 \$	167.874.00 \$	164.963.40 \$	163.343.16 \$	163,799.16 \$	162.989.04 \$	162.406.92	,	,	160.078.44 \$	158.458.20 \$	1.977.004.32
Regional School-PPO \$	196,019.52 \$	195.083.28 \$	191.944.68 \$	179.972.40 \$	183.339.00 \$	178,808.16 \$	179.390.28 \$	179.390.28	,	- ,	174,049.32 \$	173,821.32 \$	2,189,434.56
Town of Pelham-PPO \$	19,845.48 \$	19.845.48 \$	18.453.24 \$	16.478.88 \$	16.478.88 \$	16.478.88 \$	16.478.88 \$	16,478.88	,	17.871.12 \$	17.871.12 \$	17.871.12 \$	210,630.84
Town of Amherst-HMO \$	37.406.98 \$	37,406.98 \$	37.406.98 \$	36.677.88 \$	39.411.02 \$	40,209.79 \$	38.659.99 \$	41.166.01		, - +	40.436.85 \$	40.436.91 \$	469.569.42
Amherst School-HMO \$	30.299.30 \$	29.046.29 \$	29.046.29 \$	28.317.19 \$	31.552.31 \$	30.094.11 \$	32.600.13 \$	31,347.12		31.347.12 \$	31,347.12 \$	31.347.12 \$	367,691.22
Regional School-HMO \$	36,677.88 \$	37,406.98 \$	37,406.98 \$	35,424.87 \$	36,153.97 \$	37,930.89 \$	37,725.70 \$	37,201.79		38,249.61 \$	38.249.61 \$	38.249.61 \$	449,451.41
Town of Pelham-HMO \$	2,506.02 \$	2,506.02 \$	2,506.02 \$	2,506.02 \$	2,506.02 \$	3,029.93 \$	3,029.93 \$	3,029.93		3,029.93 \$	3,029.93 \$	3,029.93 \$	33,739.61
Retirees-HMO \$	1,253.01 \$	1,253.01 \$	2,506.02 \$	2,506.02 \$	2,506.02 \$	2,506.02 \$	3,029.93 \$	3,029.93		3,029.93 \$		3,029.93 \$	30,709.68
Other Revenue:	1,=20.01	1,20000	_,,,,,,,, *	_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	_,	_,	•,•=••••	***************************************	* *,*=**** *	-,- <u>-</u>	*	*	,
Interest \$	294.22 \$	1,057.40 \$	475.33 \$	484.18 \$	524.43 \$	218.84 \$	830.77 \$	1,458.19	4,375.96 \$	3,051.39 \$	3,967.65 \$	3.475.14 \$	20,213.50
Misc. \$	(86.46)	, ,	,	,	\$	562,207.00	•	, ,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	.,	*	\$	562,120.54
Stop Loss Reimbursements	(/	\$	30.56		,	,		9	1,786.98			\$	1,817.54
Total Revenue: \$	987,822.51 \$	985,990.43 \$	967,921.89 \$	959,522.56 \$	970,134.06 \$	1,526,824.81 \$	969,280.02 \$	968,748.30	972,855.97 \$	967,979.22 \$	962,762.71 \$	965,501.29 \$	12,205,343.77
Evenon diturno.							·				•	•	
Expenditures: Salaries/Benefits \$	2.829.45 \$	3.835.29 \$	2.829.44 \$	3.323.82 \$	2.849.56 \$	2.849.56 \$	3.814.66 \$	3.790.97	2.849.56 \$	3.258.43 \$	2.849.56 \$	3.459.11 \$	38.539.41
Management Services BC/BS-PPO \$	12.217.13 \$	12.925.92 \$	12.526.41 \$	3,323.62 \$ 12.522.40 \$	12.067.88 \$	12.199.82 \$	11.928.67 \$	11.823.76	, , , , , , , ,	3,236.43 \$ 11.877.24 \$,	11.613.36 \$	146.743.45
Management Services BC/B5-PPO \$	34,693.53 \$	34,545.64 \$	34,021.72 \$	32,909.91 \$	33,898.67 \$	32,684.72 \$	32,552.44 \$	32,620.00	32,525.52 \$	32,379.60 \$	32,042.43 \$	32,247.78 \$	397,121.96
Claims exp - BC/BS-PPO \$	240,569.84 \$	162,887.19 \$	161,572.57 \$	187,354.27 \$	118,976.39 \$	133,524.78 \$	126,663.09 \$	135,923.82		130,687.26 \$	108,186.12 \$	113,392.45 \$	1,779,220.24
Claims exp - HP-PPO \$	321,012.37 \$	397,557.56 \$	522,847.28 \$	558,438.64 \$	603,571.63 \$	495,018.11 \$	411,813.15 \$	416,473.58			381,178.66 \$	417,845.69 \$	5,721,002.03
Management Services BC/BS-HMO \$	4,750.50 \$	5,158.31 \$	5,079.69 \$	5,079.69 \$	6.267.15 \$	6,662.97 \$	6.860.88 \$	7,058.79		7,388.64 \$	7,520.58 \$	7,784.46 \$	76,736.42
Management Services HP-HMO \$	6,592.13 \$	6,559.96 \$	6,636.21 \$	6,580.22 \$	6,941.21 \$	6,803.45 \$	7.013.90 \$	7,025.81		7,078.24 \$	7,111.45 \$	6,913.33 \$	82,334.15
Claims exp - BC/BS-HMO \$	44,959.32 \$	61.324.07 \$	78,815.58 \$	68.592.37 \$	24.811.74 \$	45.297.40 \$	53.024.14 \$	35,388.07		46.101.78 \$	35,738.42 \$	55,848.96 \$	598,251.23
Claims exp - HP-HMO \$	24,450.10 \$	47,562.04 \$	62,983.31 \$	42,280.68 \$	49,840.31 \$	41,372.37 \$	28,945.61 \$	41,290.33	,	77,346.30 \$	45,809.10 \$	45,834.32 \$	542,961.56
Amherst Meds \$	6,919.90 \$	4,276.10 \$	9,343.90 \$	5,317.60 \$	6,242.60 \$	5,958.00 \$	4.287.70 \$	3,341.00		4,654.60 \$	7,839.90 \$	6,256.20 \$	71,519.00
Reinsurance \$	13,875.93 \$	13,806.99 \$	13,569.24 \$	13,508.43 \$	13,643.40 \$	13,577.70 \$	13,622.58 \$	13,598.52		13,589.73 \$	13,532.49 \$	13,519.80 \$	163,426.74
Miscellaneous Expenses	10,070.00 ψ	\$	4,350.00 \$	1,450.00 \$	1,450.00 \$	1,450.00 \$	1,450.00	10,000.02	2,900.00 \$	1,450.00 \$		1,450.00 \$	17,400.00
Total Expenditures:	712.870.20 \$	750.439.07 \$	914,575.35 \$	937,358.03 \$	880,560.54 \$	797,398.88 \$	701,976.82 \$	708.334.65	853,246.53 \$	1.007.392.62 \$	654,938.04 \$	716,165.46 \$	9,635,256.19
Income (Loss) from Operations	274,952.31 \$	235,551.36 \$	53,346.54 \$	22,164.53 \$	89.573.52 \$	729,425.93 \$	267,303.20 \$	260,413.65	119.609.44 \$	(39,413.40) \$	307,824.67 \$	249,335.83 \$	2,570,087.58
Fund Balance end of Month: \$	163.059.11 \$	398.610.47 \$	451.957.01 \$	474.121.54 \$	563.695.06 \$	1.293.120.99 \$	1.560.424.19 \$,				2.458.194.38	2,310,001.30

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity

Stabilization Fund and Property Casualty Insurance Claims All Expendable Trust Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2008

(unaudited)

	8004 Stabilization Fund	8406 Insurance Claims	Total
Revenues:			
Property taxes			-
Excise			-
Interest, penalties and other taxes			-
Charges for services			-
Licenses and permits			-
Intergovernmental			-
Fines and forfeits Interest earnings	31,388.60	854.80	32,243.40
Miscellaneous	31,300.00	25,763.07	25,763.07
Contributions		23,703.07	25,705.07
Total Revenues	31,388.60	26,617.87	58,006.47
Expenditures:			
General Government		23,970.33	23,970.33
Public Safety			-
Public Works			-
Planning, Conservation and Inspections Community Services			-
Library Services			<u>-</u>
Education			
Debt Service			-
Intergovernmental			-
Total Expenditures	-	23,970.33	23,970.33
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	31,388.60	2,647.54	34,036.14
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Bond Proceeds			-
Operating transfers in	-		-
Operating transfers (out)			-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)			-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	31,388.60	2,647.54	34,036.14
Fund Equity, July 1, 2007	863,153.08	33,043.04	896,196.12
Fund Equity, June 30, 2008	\$ 894,541.68	\$ 35,690.58	\$ 930,232.26

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity

All Non-Expendable Trust Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 (unaudited)

	8401 Trust Principal	8402 Trust Income	Total
Revenues:			
Property taxes Excise			-
Interest, penalties and other taxes			-
Charges for services			-
Licenses and permits			-
Intergovernmental			-
Fines and forfeits			-
Interest earnings	393.48	12,600.07	12,993.55
Miscellaneous Contributions	3,500.00		3,500.00
Total Revenues	3,893.48	12,600.07	16,493.55
rotariteventes	0,000.40	12,000.07	10,430.00
Expenditures:			
General Government			-
Public Safety			-
Public Works			-
Planning, Conservation and Inspections Community Services		5,109.42	- 5,109.42
Library Services		5,109.42	5,109.42
Education			-
Debt Service			-
Intergovernmental			
Total Expenditures	-	5,109.42	5,109.42
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	3,893.48	7,490.65	11,384.13
Other Figure in a Course (Ulara)			
Other Financing Sources (Uses): Bond Proceeds			_
Operating transfers in			-
Operating transfers (out)			-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-	-
- , , ,			
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources			
over expenditures and other uses	3,893.48	7,490.65	11,384.13
Fund Equity, July 1, 2007	312,295.16	89,251.81	401,546.97
Fund Equity, June 30, 2008	\$316,188.64	\$ 96,742.46	\$412,931.10

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Equity Expendable and Non-Expendable Trust Funds For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008 (Unaudited)

								Net	Fund	Fund
								Change in	Balance	Balance
		Other	Total	Operating	Excess	Transfers	Transfers	Fund	June 30,	June 30,
	Interest	Revenues	Resources	Expenditures	(Deficiency)	In	Out	Balance	2007	2008
Martha D. Bianchi Fund			_	•	-			\$ -	1,025.00	1,025.00
Alice C. Burnham Fund			_		-			-	15,020.66	15,020.66
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	3,500.00		3,500.00		3,500.00			3,500.00	95,950.14	99,450.14
Ephraim Y. Cosby Fund			_		-			-	500.00	500.00
Florence B. Cutler Fund			-		-			-	2,000.00	2,000.00
S. White Dickinson Fund			-		-			-	5,000.00	5,000.00
George S. Kendrick Fund			-		-			-	1,899.15	1,899.15
Herbert B. Adams Fund			-		-			-	2,814.31	2,814.31
R. J. D. Westcott Fund			-		-			-	3,000.00	3,000.00
Alfred F. Field Jr. Fund			-		-			-	82,442.15	82,442.15
William E. Smith Fund			-		-			-	1,899.15	1,899.15
Whiting Street Fund			=		-			-	9,040.61	9,040.61
E. F. Cook Fountain Fund			=		-			-	2,346.54	2,346.54
Barbara Smith Hospital Fund	393.48		393.48		393.48			393.48	10,853.28	11,246.76
Betty Jane Donley Fund			=		-			-	78,504.17	78,504.17
Total Non-expendable income	3,893.48	=	3,893.48	\$ -	3,893.48	\$ -	\$ -	3,893.48	312,295.16	316,188.64
Martha Dickinson Bianchi Memorial	74.01		74.01		74.01			74.01	1,011.92	1,085.93
Alice C. Burnham-West Cemetery Gate	1,240.46		1,240.46		1,240.46			1,240.46	19,762.65	21,003.11
Cemetery Perpetual Care	3,701.47		3,701.47		3,701.47			3,701.47	45,510.99	49,212.46
Ephraim Y. Cosby-West Cemetery	40.22		40.22		40.22			40.22	609.35	649.57
Florence B. Cutler-West Cemetery	153.55		153.55		153.55			153.55	2,234.52	2,388.07
S. White Dickinson Cemetery Fund	382.54		382.54		382.54			382.54	5,550.40	5,932.94
George S. Kendrick-West Cemetery	105.06		105.06		105.06			105.06	998.58	1,103.64
Alfred E. Field, Jr.	2,930.18		2,930.18	2,754.42	175.76			175.76	362.51	538.27
William E. Smith	71.04		71.04	66.00	5.04			5.04	35.89	40.93
Whiting Street Fund	324.17		324.17	289.00	35.17			35.17	108.51	143.68
Herbert B. Adams	121.15		121.15		121.15			121.15	525.54	646.69
R.J.D. Westcott	124.72		124.72		124.72			124.72	438.70	563.42
E.F. Cook Fountain	\$ 157.18		157.18		157.18			157.18	2,021.98	2,179.16
Betty Jane Donley Fund	3,174.32		3,174.32	2,000.00	1,174.32			1,174.32	10,080.27	11,254.59
Total Expendable income	12,600.07	-	12,600.07	5,109.42	7,490.65	-	-	7,490.65	89,251.81	96,742.46
Total Evpandable and	¢ 16 402 FF	¢	¢ 16 102 FF	¢ 5 100 42	¢ 11 201 12	c	¢.	¢ 11 201 12	¢ 404 546 07	¢ 442 024 40
Total Expendable and	\$ 16,493.55	\$ -	φ 10,493.55	\$ 5,109.42	φ 11,384.13	\$ -	\$ -	φ 11,384.13	\$ 401,546.97	φ412,931.1U
Non-expendable Trust Funds										

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS FY 2008 Approved Budget General Fund

	FY 2008	FY2008	FY 2008	FY 2008	FY 2008	Final
	ATM	RECAP	STM Nov 07	ATM	Fin Com Jul-08	Approved
OPERATING BUDGETS	April-May 07	Adjustments	Nov-07	April-June 08	Jul-08	Budget
General Government:						
Select Board	\$ 56,399.00					\$ 56,399.00
Town Manager	180,160.00					180,160.00
Finance Committee (Reserve Fund Included)	100,800.00				(99,065.00)	1,735.00
Finance Department	765,777.00	10,000.00				775,777.00
Elections and Registration	42,325.00					42,325.00
Town Clerk's Office Legal Services	141,384.00 110,000.00					141,384.00 110,000.00
Human Resources/Affirmative Action	188,080.00					188,080.00
Employee Benefits	2,961,465.00			(122,000.00)		2,839,465.00
Information systems	438,799.00			, ,		438,799.00
Facilities Maintenance	435,089.00					435,089.00
General Services	434,861.00					434,861.00
Total General Government	5,855,139.00	10,000.00	-	(122,000.00)	(99,065.00)	5,644,074.00
Public Safety:						
Police	3,680,369.00			184,000.00		3,864,369.00
Police Facility	170,870.00			,		170,870.00
Fire/Emergency Medical Services	3,447,287.00					3,447,287.00
Communications Center	548,009.00					548,009.00
Animal Control	45,435.00					45,435.00
Total Public Safety	7,891,970.00		-	184,000.00	-	8,075,970.00
Public Works:						
Public Works Administration	246,534.00					246,534.00
Construction and Maintenance	521,049.00			50,000.00		571,049.00
Snow and Ice Removal	182,210.00				99,065.00	281,275.00
Street and Traffic Lights	105,887.00					105,887.00
Equipment Maintenance	240,266.00			10,000.00		250,266.00
Tree Care and Pest Control	123,912.00					123,912.00
Town Cemeteries Parks and Commons	23,295.00 247,348.00			10,000.00		23,295.00 257,348.00
Total Public Works	1,690,501.00			70,000.00	99,065.00	1,859,566.00
rotal rabile fromte	1,000,001.00			70,000.00	00,000.00	1,000,000.00
Planning, Conservation and Inspections:						
Inspection Services	371,047.00			(69,000.00)		302,047.00
Conservation Commission and Department	209,452.00					209,452.00
Planning Department	291,382.00			(00.000.00)		291,382.00
Total Planning, Conservation and Inspections	871,881.00		-	(69,000.00)	-	802,881.00
Community Services:						-
Public Health	285,465.00			(15,000.00)		270,465.00
Community Services	45,477.00			(-,,		45,477.00
Public Assistance (Human Services)	66,000.00					66,000.00
Council On Aging	198,866.00					198,866.00
Veterans' Services and Benefits	132,902.00					132,902.00
Town Commemorations	875.00			(40,000,00)		875.00
Leisure Services and Supplemental Education Municipal Pools	637,704.00 168,480.00			(48,000.00)		589,704.00 168,480.00
Cherry Hill Golf	207,835.00					207,835.00
Total Community Services	1,743,604.00	-	-	(63,000.00)	-	1,680,604.00
·	<u> </u>			, ,		
Library Services:						
Jones Library	1,569,084.00					1,569,084.00
Total Library Services	1,569,084.00	-	-	-	-	1,569,084.00
Public Education:						
Elementary Schools	19,456,715.00					19,456,715.00
Regional School District	12,385,188.00					12,385,188.00
Total Public Education	31,841,903.00	-	-	-	-	31,841,903.00
Debt Service:						
Debt Principal	E04 E00 00					- 504 500 00
General Elementary Schools	501,562.00 265,000.00					501,562.00 265,000.00
Regional Schools	200,000.00					200,000.00
Debt Interest						-
General	101,642.00					101,642.00
Elementary Schools	87,798.00					87,798.00
Regional Schools	515,357.00					515,357.00
Temporary Debt/Borrowing Costs	20,000.00					20,000.00
Total Debt Service	1,491,359.00	-	-	-	-	1,491,359.00

	FY 2008 ATM April-May 07	FY2008 RECAP Adjustments	FY 2008 STM Nov-07	FY 2008 ATM April-June 08	FY 2008 Fin Com Jul-08	Final Approved Budget
Transfers:						
Art 30 Capital Program -Equipment	1,095,378.00					1,095,378.00
Art 15 Capital Program- Facilities	154,000.00		FC0 007 00			154,000.00
STM Art 3A Health Insurance Total Transfers	1,249,378.00	-	562,207.00 562,207.00	-	-	562,207.00 1,811,585.00
Hanaid Billa			·			
Unpaid Bills: Art unpaid bills ATM (dismissed)						-
Total Unpaid Bills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assessments:						
State						
Motor Vehicle Parking Surcharge		64,320.00				64,320.00
Retired Teachers Health Insurance		750,035.00				750,035.00
Air Pollution Control Districts		6,725.00				6,725.00
Other Regional Transit Authorities		834,468.00				834,468.00
School Choice Sending Tuition		204,916.00				204,916.00
Charter School Assessment		193,628.00				193,628.00
SPED SPED		1,986.00				1,986.00
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission		5,231.00				5,231.00
Hampshire County Regional Lock -up		·	31,323.00			31,323.00
Total Assessments	-	2,061,309.00	31,323.00	-	-	2,092,632.00
Deficits:						•
Revenue Deficit						-
Appropriation Deficit						-
Overlay Deficit		2,626.00				2,626.00
Total Deficits	-	2,626.00	-	-	-	2,626.00
SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS General Government:						
Retirement Assessment	2,920,979.00					2,920,979.00
Total Gen Gov Special Appropriations	2,920,979.00	.	-	-	9	2,920,979.00
GRAND TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$ 57,125,798.00	\$ 2,073,935.00	\$ 593,530.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,793,263.00

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

Fiscal Year 2008

The Town Clerk's office prepared for and conducted two elections in FY08: the Presidential Primary on February 5, 2008, and the Annual Town Election on April 1, 2008.

Two special town meetings were held on November 5, 2007 and November 28, 2007. The November 5, 2007 special town meeting, known as the Fall Town Meeting, was held over five sessions and twenty articles were considered and voted on.

The Annual Town Meeting which began on April 28, 2008, with a full compliment of town meeting members, lasted for ten sessions and deliberated on forty-seven articles. Amongst other business, town meeting members voted to rescind the Recombinant DNA Bylaw, and adopted three new general bylaws: False Alarm Fees, Right to Farm, and the Nuisance House. An attempt to gather the required number of signatures to call a referendum on the town meeting vote to adopt the Nuisance House bylaw failed.

At the beginning of the fifth session held on May 14, 2008 the Moderator announced that this Annual Meeting, heretofore designated the Two Hundred Forty-Ninth would henceforth be recognized as the Two Hundred Fiftieth. Research by Elizabeth Sharpe, President of the Amherst Historical Society, has established that Amherst's first Annual Meeting as an independent district was held on March 19, 1759 with Ebenezer Dickinson as moderator; this Meeting, 249 years later, is therefore the Two Hundred Fiftieth Annual Meeting.

The Moderator offered the following for town meeting's information:

Among other business, the 1759 meeting:

- Elected officers, including selectmen, treasurer, constables, surveyors, tything men, fence viewers, hog reeves.
- Voted that "hogs rung & Yoakt According to Law may run at Large".
- Voted to "Hire Six Bulls for the District Service this Year".
- Voted "the Select men to Hire said Bulls".
- Set the salary for the minister at 66 pounds plus 15 pounds for firewood.
- Raised 20 pounds for schooling for the year.

Amherst continued to call itself a district until 1776 when, for the first time, the minutes refer to the Town of Amherst. According to Planning Director Jonathan Tucker, recognition as a Town was not officially granted by the Commonwealth until 1788.

On July 9, the Town of Amherst lost one of its most beloved residents, and the Town Clerk's office lost one of its most valuable Election Wardens, with the passing of Rose Quinton. During the 1980s Rose took on some duties in the town clerk's office and even served as the Acting Town Clerk for a time. Later she became the Warden at Precinct 9 where she served up until the 2008 Annual Town Election. Rose shared with me how disappointed she was when the date for the Presidential Primary was brought forward to February 5, because she would not be back from her winter retreat and would not be able to work. She was most displeased that she would have to vote an absentee ballot. Rose passed away just days before her 82nd birthday. We love you Rose and we will miss you.

Visitors to Town Hall are no longer met with pieces of paper stuck to the main entrance doors notifying them of the location for meetings. The Town Clerk's office now operates and maintains the Electronic Bulletin Boards which display the upcoming meetings for the week as well as the room location for meetings being held in Town Hall.

In the summer of 2007 the Town Clerk's office began overhauling its vital records indexing system. Vital record indexes are an inventory of all the records in the custody of the Town Clerk. These indices are vital to the location of records when dates of birth, death, or marriage are unknown to individuals requesting certified copies and other data.

Completion of this project will allow for more efficient location of records, less costly maintenance, and most exciting, more space in the Town Clerk vault.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Burgess CMC Town Clerk

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Barbara Fenton's term on the Board of Registrars expired on June 30, 2008. Barbara served as a member of the Board of Registrars since her appointment on July 11, 2005. Barbara replaced Doris Holden and was an active member of the Board of Registrars, especially on election night when she approached her tasks with great enthusiasm.

Registration sessions were held 20 days prior to each election in accordance with Chapter 51, §§26 and 28 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Town Clerk's office was open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. to facilitate voter registration.

The Secretary of State announced that the Presidential Primary, previously scheduled for March 4, 2008, would be held on February 5, 2008. By the time this announcement was made it was already beyond the optimum date for processing requests for absentee ballots; the decision, in general, created many challenges for the city and town clerks across the state. The Secretary of State filed special legislation allowing the state to reimburse cities and towns for mailing absentee ballots to military personnel and voters who were out of the country by priority mail. Special legislation also provided for ballots being mailed from outside the United States to be counted if received up until 10 days after the election provided they had been mailed on or before the date of the election. Statute normally provides for absentee ballots mailed from overseas to be counted only when received up ten days following a state election.

Accelerating the date of the Presidential Primary presented all city and town clerk's offices with a challenge which was met with the diligence Massachusetts voters have come to expect from their election officials. High voter turnout for the Presidential Primary indicates record voter turnout in the Presidential Election to be held on November 4, 2008.

On December 6, 2007, Aaron Buford, on behalf of the Student Government Association, petitioned the Select Board for the dissolution of the four campus voting sub-precincts. The Select Board voted unanimously at a meeting held on December 10, 2007 to reverse the vote taken at the December 19, 2005 Select Board meeting at which the sub-precincts were established under Chapter 54, § 7A of the

Massachusetts General Laws. All voters affected by this change were notified of their change of polling location in accordance with Chapter 54, § 7A.

Voter totals as of April 1, 2008 were as follows:

Pct.	ΑI	D	GP	GR	Int	L	\mathbf{RC}	Ref	R	\mathbf{S}	\mathbf{U}	WF	Total
1		680	1	19		11			82	1	707		1501
2		856	2	9		4			89		538		1498
3		495		12		6			72		494		1079
4	1	552	1	3		8			73		439		1077
5	2	719		17		5			97		654	1	1495
6		1081		21	1	10	2		137		857		2109
7		976		19	1	13		2	113		813	1	1938
8		1362		30		10			178	1	923		2504
9		976		32		9			117	2	903	1	2040
10	1	542		5		3			48	1	488		1088
	4	8239	4	167	2	79	2	2	1006	5	6816	3	16329

AI = American Independent

GR = Green Rainbow

RC = Rainbow Coalition

S = Socialist

D = Democrat

 $Int = Interdependent 3^{rd} Party$

Ref – Reform

U = Unenrolled

 $GP = Green \ Party \ USA$

L=Libertarian

R = Republican

WF = *Working Families*

1,687 voters were registered and 1,173 voters were deleted between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Burgess, CMC Clerk to the Board of Registrars

2007 Vitals

(The Town Clerk is required to report to the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics on a calendar-year basis)

Births 173

Deaths 164

Marriages 136

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RESULTS SPECIAL TOWN MEETING November 5, 7, 15, 19, and 28, 2007

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the Government Channel.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Harrison Gregg at 7:39 p.m. There were 251 town meeting members. 126 checked in and a quorum was declared. The call and the return of the warrant were read by Assistant Town Clerk, Susan Audette.

Peter Gray-Mullen was sworn in as Town Meeting Member.

ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees (Select Board)

VOTED unanimously to hear those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form.

Action taken on 11/5/07

ARTICLE 2. Transfer of Funds – Unpaid Bills (Finance Committee)

DISMISSED: [To see if the Town will, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 64, of the Massachusetts General Laws, appropriate and transfer a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years.]

Action taken on 11/5/07

ARTICLE 3. FY08 Budget Amendments (Finance Committee)

- **A. VOTED unanimously** to amend the budget voted under Article 17 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting (Fiscal Year 2008 Operating Budget), by appropriating to the Health Claims Trust Fund \$562,207 for employee health insurance and to meet such appropriation transfer \$562,207 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund, said appropriation to be reimbursed to the General Fund via a temporary health insurance premium surcharge to employers and employees until such time as the total appropriation has been reimbursed.
- **B. VOTED unanimously** to appropriate and transfer \$31,323 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund for the Hampshire County Regional Lock-up Facility assessment. Action taken on 11/5/07

ARTICLE 4. Property Tax Exemptions for Veterans' Organizations (Select Board)

VOTED to accept the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 5B of the Massachusetts General Laws, which exempt from taxation the real and personal estate belonging to or held in trust for the benefit of incorporated organizations of veterans of any war in which the United States has been engaged, to the extent of \$700,000 if used and occupied by such association. Action taken on 11/5/07

ARTICLE 5. Capital – Mark's Meadow Portable Classrooms (Joint Capital Planning Committee) **VOTED by a declared two-thirds** that the sum of \$195,000 be and hereby is appropriated to pay costs of purchasing portable classrooms for the use of the School Department and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, which amount shall be expended in addition to the \$80,000 previously appropriated for this purpose, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(9) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Action taken on 11/5/07

ARTICLE 6. Dissolution of Senior Trust – Transfer of Funds (Select Board)

VOTED unanimously that the Town receive funds currently held by the Trustees of the Senior Trust, in order for the Trust to dissolve according to the terms of the Trust Agreement, and appropriate all the funds received, \$94,160.34 plus any accrued income, to be transferred to the newly formed Friends of the Amherst Senior Center, Inc.

Action taken on 11/5/07

ARTICLE 7. Community Preservation Act – Open Space (Community Preservation Act Committee) **A. VOTED** to appropriate \$123,000 from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues for the purchase of land for open space purposes in North Amherst (Map 3B, Parcel 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13).

VOTED by a declared two-thirds, as amended to 1) authorize the Select Board to acquire by B. gift or negotiated purchase parcels of land containing 28 acres, more or less, designated as Map 3B, Parcels 7-13 of the Town Cadastre, located north of East Leverett Road, from Haskins View LLC, to be managed and controlled by the Amherst Conservation Commission in accordance with Chapter 40, Section 8C for conservation and passive recreation purposes, 2) appropriate \$487,000 for the acquisition of said land, 3) to meet such appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority, 4) authorize the Town Manager or his designee to file on behalf of the Town any and all applications deemed necessary under the Self-Help Act (M.G.L. Chapter 132A, Section 11) or any other applications for funds in any way connected with the scope of this acquisition, 5) authorize the Town Manager, the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission, as they deem appropriate, to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments including the conveyance of a perpetual deed restriction in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 184 as required by Section 12(a) of Chapter 44B as may be necessary on behalf of the Town to effect said purchase. Action taken on 11/5/07

At 9:54 p.m. on November 5, 2007, the meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 176 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The November 7, 2007 session, adjourned from November 5, 2007, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:48 p.m. 126 town meeting members were checked in.

Mike Olkin was sworn in as Town Meeting Member.

ARTICLE 8. Community Preservation Act – Town Hall Historic Preservation (Community Preservation Act Committee)

- **A. VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$100,000 from Community Preservation Fund balance to rebuild the south steps of Town Hall and to restore the masonry, internal wooden structural elements, and clockworks of the Town Hall clock tower.
- **B. VOTED by a declared two-thirds** that the sum of \$295,000 be and hereby is appropriated to complete the repointing and associated masonry work involved in the restoration of the exterior of the historic 1889 Amherst Town Hall under the Community Preservation Program, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44B, Section 11 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.
- **C. VOTED** to amend the action taken under Article 23 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting Capital Program Bond Authorization, by reducing by \$395,000 the appropriation and borrowing authorization for extraordinary repairs to the exterior of Town Hall. Action taken on 11/7/07

ARTICLE 9. Petition – Resolution – Fair Trade (Friman) **VOTED unanimously as amended** to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, "Fair Trade" is an innovative, market economy system that promotes fair labor practices and healthy, safe work environments through the production of food and other products; and

WHEREAS, Fair Trade provides procedures with fair prices that translates into truly livable wages; and

WHEREAS, production of Fair Trade goods is achieved through sustainable and ecologically friendly means thus supporting the future of a healthy planet for all; and

WHEREAS, millions of people have had their standard of living significantly raised through the simple act of educated consumers selecting and asking for Fair Trade products:

Now Therefore Be It resolved, that Amherst Representative Town Meeting encourages the Town Manager to establish a procedure to maximize purchase of Fair Trade Certified products in the process of procuring necessary goods for the Town, said established procedure to be informed by the fact of Town Manager's authority to execute contracts and oversee procurement and to adhere to the strict statutory requirements that the Town Manager must follow when purchasing products for Town use;

Be it further resolved, that Amherst Town Meeting calls upon the Select Board to consider working to ensure ongoing education, media exposure and commitment to "Fair Trade" and to encourage businesses and institutions to use and sell Fair Trade Certified products whenever possible for the well being of producers, consumers and the planet;

Be it further resolved, that Town Meeting calls upon the Select Board to consider forming a town committee in order to take a more active role in the future on issues of Fair Trade if it proves productive for the Town to act in an official capacity."

Action taken on 11/7/07

ARTICLE 10. Zoning Bylaw and Zoning Map – Research & Development (R&D) Overlay District (Planning Board)

VOTED to add new sections to Sections 2.03, Industrial/Research Park Districts, and to 3.2, Special Districts, of the Zoning Bylaw, and amend the Official Zoning Map in order to create a Research and Development (R&D) overlay district, as follows:

A. VOTED by a declared two-thirds to add the following new sections to Section 2.03, Industrial/Research Park Districts, and Section 3.2, Special Districts, of the Zoning Bylaw, as follows:

2.03 Industrial/Research Park Districts

R&D Research & Development

The R&D District is an overlay district intended to modify the regulations in underlying business and industrial/research park districts in order facilitate research and development and testing uses and to provide specific additional regulations with regard to such uses.

3.29 Research & Development (RD) District

3.290 General

The Research & Development (R&D) District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying districts shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the R&D District unless superseded by the restrictions and conditions of the R&D District.

3.291 Establishment of District

The Research & Development (R&D) District shall consist of those geographic areas shown as R&D District on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands which, by virtue of their location with respect to institutions of higher learning, transportation corridors, utilities, village centers, services, and other factors, are appropriate for the siting of research, development, and testing businesses.

3.292 Purpose

The purposes of the Research & Development (R&D) District are to:

- 3.2920 Facilitate and promote the establishment, development, and expansion of information- and technology-intensive research and development businesses in Amherst.
- 3.2921 Provide opportunities for the establishment of research and development businesses, including but not limited to those derived from or associated with the research and testing activities of departments or agencies of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst College, and Hampshire College.

3.2922	Require that any research and development businesses established in Amherst are located, designed, and operated in conformance with all federal, state and local regulations regarding public health and safety.
3.2923	Expand employment opportunities for Amherst residents in the fields of research and development.
3.2924	Broaden and diversify the community's property tax base.

3.293 Permit Required

Within the R&D District, any uses under Sections 3.372.0 and 3.372.1 directly involved or associated with research, development and testing activities, including any associated accessory light manufacturing which would otherwise be regulated in the underlying zoning district under a Special Permit (SP) by the Zoning Board of Appeals shall instead be regulated under Site Plan Review (SPR) approval by the Planning Board. An exception shall be any accessory research or testing to be conducted outdoors, which shall require a Special Permit granted by the Special Permit Granting Authority authorized to act under the applicable section of the Bylaw.

3.294 Review Period

Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 10.323 and 11.230, within the R&D District, the Fire Chief, Building Commissioner, Board of Health, Town Engineer, and Conservation Department shall have forty-five (45) days to report their findings on any application made under Sections 3.372.0 and 3.372.1 which involves the use, production, or storage of materials identified as flammable, toxic, hazardous or explosive.

B. VOTED by a declared two-thirds to amend the Official Zoning Map to add the Research & Development (R&D) overlay district to the following properties in Amherst currently zoned Limited Business (B-L) which are located west of University Drive and between Amity Street and Northampton Road (Route 9):

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Map 13B, Parcels 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 27, and 28
Map 13D, Parcels 2, 3, 5, 59, 62, and 70.
Action taken on 11/7/07
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At 10:02 p.m. on November 7, 2007, the meeting voted to adjourn to Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 168 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The November 15, 2007 session, adjourned from November 7, 2007, was called to order by Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:42 p.m. 124 town meeting members were checked in.

James W. Pistrang, Nonny Burack, Hilda B. Greenbaum, James E. Scott, H. Oldham Brooks, and Nancy M. Gordon were sworn in as tellers.

ARTICLE 11. Zoning Bylaw - Research & Industrial Uses (Planning Board) **VOTED** to amend Sections 3.372.0, 3.372.1, 3.372.2, and Article 12 of the Zoning Bylaw, by deleting the lined out language and adding the language in *bold italics*, as follows:

A **VOTED by a declared two-thirds** to amend Sections 3.372.0 and 3.372.1, as follows:

3.372.0 Research and Development or Testing facility

R-O

R-LD R-N R-VC R-G R-F B-G B-L B-VC COM OP <u>LI</u> **PRP FPC** N N SP N N SP SP/SPR* SP SPR **SPR SPR SPR** N (SP)

Standards & Conditions

* In those areas of the B-L District which coincide with the Research & Development (R&D) overlay district, Site Plan Review approval shall be required for uses regulated under this section. In all other areas of the B-L District, a Special Permit shall be required from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Uses under this section shall include research, development and/or testing of innovative information, concepts, methods, processes, materials, or products. This shall include but not be limited to activities conducted in laboratory settings. The accessory development, fabrication, and light manufacturing of prototypes, or specialized machinery and devices integral to research or testing may be associated with these uses under the provisions of Section 5.07.

In the B-G, B-L, B-VC and R-VC districts, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit for a research and development use, provided that it consists only of office or similar uses and meets the provisions of Section 3.359, Article 7, and Section 10.38. An exception shall be where the B-L District coincides with the R&D overlay district, in which case such a research and development use, similarly limited, shall be permitted through Site Plan Review approval.

In all zones, all outdoor storage of materials and equipment shall be screened from public view, from public ways and abutting residential districts. No operation shall create noise, vibration, dust, fumes, or odors that are a nuisance beyond the lot line, and further no operations shall be permitted which the Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority, after consultation with the Board of Health, determines to be unduly hazardous by reasons of potential fire, explosion, or chemical or biological hazard, including hazards resulting from the use, production or storage of materials or waste identified as toxic or hazardous, flammable, or explosive. No research or testing to shall be conducted outdoors unless a Special Permit is granted for this purpose by the Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permit Granting Authority authorized to act under the applicable section of this bylaw.

3.372.1 Publishing, data processing, light manufacturing, light assembly including computer hardware and software, and scientific products with associated offices and

distribution facilities.

R-O R-LD R-N R-VC R-G R-F B-G B-L B-VC COM OP LI **PRP FPC** N N SP N N SP SP/SPR* SP SPR **SPR SPR** SPR N (SP)

Standards & Conditions

* In those areas of the B-L District which coincide with the Research & Development (R&D) overlay district, Site Plan Review approval shall be required for uses regulated under this section. In all other areas of the B-L District, a Special Permit shall be required from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Uses under this section shall include those which involve the limited light manufacture or production, principally from previously-prepared materials, of finished products or parts. This may include processing, fabrication, assembly, treatment, and packaging of such products as well as incidental storage and distribution of such products and associated offices. These uses may also include the on-site production within enclosed structures of custom goods fabricated principally by hand through the use of hand tools and small-scale mechanical equipment.

No mass manufacturing, processing, or fabrication normally conducted under Section 3.372.2 nor any on-premises sale of products shall be permitted in association with uses under this section, except that the on-premises sale of custom-made goods produced by hand manufacturing may be permitted under a Special Permit granted by the Special Permit Granting Authority authorized to act under the applicable section of the Bylaw.

In the R-VC District, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit for a use under this section, provided that the proposed use consists only of offices or similar uses and meets the provisions of Sections 3.360 3.359, Article 7 and Section 10.38. In all zones, all outdoor storage of materials and equipment shall be screened from public view, from public ways and abutting residential districts.

No operation shall create noise, vibration, dust, fumes, or odors that are a nuisance beyond the lot line, and further, no operations shall be permitted which the Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority, after consultation with the Board of Health, determines to be unduly hazardous by reason of potential fire, explosion, or chemical or biological hazard resulting from the use, production or storage of materials or waste identified as toxic or hazardous, flammable, or explosive. Where permitted, all operations involving such materials shall be conducted in a fully enclosed building in accordance with all applicable public health and safety regulations.

- **B VOTED by a declared two-thirds, as amended**, to amend Section 3.372.2, as follows:
- 3.372.2 Manufacturing, assembly and

processing, including associated offices and distribution facilities.

R-O R-LD R-N R-VC R-G R-F B-G B-L B-VC COM OP LI **PRP FPC** SPR SP N N N N N N N N N N **SPR** N SP (SP)

Standards & Conditions

Uses under this section shall include those involving the manufacture, assembly and/or processing, from extracted or raw materials or from previously-prepared materials, of finished materials, products, or parts. These uses may include processing, fabrication, assembly, treatment, and packaging of such products, as well as incidental storage and distribution of such products and associated offices. These uses may involve the production and/or storage of volumes of toxic or hazardous, flammable, or explosive materials under appropriate safeguards and conditions, as determined by the special permit granting authority under the requirements of this section. The on-premises sale of products shall not be permitted in association with any uses under this section.

In all zones, all outdoor storage of materials and equipment shall be screened from public view, from public ways and abutting residential districts. No operation shall create noise, vibration, dust, fumes or odors that are a nuisance beyond the lot line, and further, no operations shall be *permitted which the Permit Granting Board determines to be unduly* hazardous by reason of potential fire, explosion, or radiation, or chemical or biological hazard resulting from the use, production, or storage of materials or waste identified as toxic or hazardous, flammable, or explosive. Where permitted, all operations involving such materials shall be conducted in a fully enclosed building in accordance with all applicable public health and safety regulations.

- **C VOTED unanimously** to amend Article 12 of the zoning bylaw by adding the following new language under Section 12.35 and renumbering the remaining sections accordingly:
- 12.35 Toxic or Hazardous Substance: Any chemical substance or mixture of substances in a gaseous, liquid or solid state which is listed in the Massachusetts toxic or hazardous substance list compiled and maintained by the commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in compliance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 111F, section four, as amended, and which is manufactured, processed, used or stored in the workplace, but which shall not include alcoholic beverages as defined in MGL Ch. 138, Section one, or articles intended for personal consumption by employees in the workplace, or consumer articles packaged for distribution to, and used by, the general public, or articles sold or used in retail food establishments and all other retail trade establishments, exclusive of articles used in processing and repair areas, or substances being transported in interstate commerce.

Action taken on 11/15/2007

ARTICLE 12. Zoning Bylaw - Accessory Light Manufacturing (Planning Board) **VOTED** to amend Section 5.07, Scientific Research or Development, of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting the lined out language and adding the language shown in *bold italics*:

A VOTED Yes 121: No 33, as amended:

SECTION 5.07 SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

- 5.070 Uses accessory to and necessary in connection with scientific research, scientific development, or related production activities in districts where such activities are permitted by right under a Special Permit or Site Plan Review approval may be permitted upon the issuance of a Special Permit, as an amendment to the permit for the principal use provided that the Board of Appeals Permit Granting Board or Special Permit Granting Authority finds that the proposed accessory use does not substantially derogate from the public good. Such an accessory use need not be located on the same parcel or parcels of land as the related principal use or activity.
- 5.072 An airport or helipad shall not be considered an accessory use under this section.

B VOTED by a declared two-thirds, as amended:

- 5.071 Limited manufacturing activity may be considered an allowed accessory use to a technical research and development office, laboratory, or research facility in the B-G, B-L, B-VC, COM, OP, PRP and LI districts, provided that the following requirements are satisfied:
 - 5.0710 Such manufacturing activity shall be directly related to the research and development activities of the principal use.
 - 5.0711 No manufacturing activity shall occur within two hundred (200) feet of a dwelling unit in a residential district, or within one hundred (100) feet of any dwelling unit in a non-residential district, including any accessory dwelling units under Section 5.016.
 - 5.0712 No manufacturing, processing, or fabrication normally conducted under Sections 3.372.1 or 3.372.2, nor any on-premises sale of products shall be permitted in association with uses under this section.
 - 5.0713 All manufacturing activity shall customarily occur inside of buildings; however, outdoor research work and incidental outdoor fabrication of equipment to conduct outdoor experimentation may be permitted under a Special Permit granted by the Special Permit Granting Authority authorized to act under the applicable section of the Bylaw and issued in conformance with the Standards and Conditions of the principal use and the provisions of Section 10.38.
 - 5.0714 Manufacturing activity, excluding incidental fabrication of outdoor experiments, shall not occupy an area in excess of sixty (60) percent of the gross floor area of a building or group of associated buildings owned or leased by the same establishment.

Action taken on 11/15/2007

At 10:15 p.m. on the 15th day of November 2007, the meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, November 19, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 177 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The November 19, 2007 session, adjourned from November 15, 2007, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:45 p.m. 124 town meeting members were checked in.

ARTICLE 13. Zoning Bylaw - Technical/Professional Offices (Planning Board)
DISMISSED [To see if the Town will amend Section 3.359 of the Use Chart (Section 3.3) of the Zoning Bylaw, by deleting the lined out language and adding the language in bold italics, as follows:

3.359 Low visitation professional or administrative offices

3.359.0 Technical or professional office such as architect, engineer, lawyer, financial services, or similar office providing services predominantly by appointment to clients in person on the premises.

R-0 R-LD	R-N	R-VC	R-G	R-F	B-G	B-L	B-VC	COM	OP	LI	PRP	FPC
N	N	SP	N	N	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR	SP	SPR	N

Standards & Conditions

For the purposes of this section, the general public shall be defined as including all persons acting as customers or clients receiving services. "Predominantly by appointment" shall mean that a majority of customers or clients who are provided services in person on the premises during any extended period of operation (monthly, quarterly, or annually) shall do so through prior appointment. Exceptions shall be discretionary follow-up visits by customers or clients with regard to services already provided, and visits by affiliated professionals or consultants, salespersons, service contractors (delivery, maintenance, etc.), and the like. Office uses under this section shall advertise their on-premises services as being available to the general public only by appointment.

In the R-VC District, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit for a technical or professional office that provides services predominantly by appointment to customers or clients in person on the premises. The Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit providing it finds that, in addition to meeting the provisions of Article 7 and Section 10.38, the proposed office use meets the following conditions:

- 1. Is located on the ground floor only, and occupies no more than 50 percent of the gross floor area of the structure, exclusive of storage space.
- 2. Shall be allowed only as a second Principal use, where the first Principal use is a residential use consisting of one dwelling unit.
- 3. Shares a property line with or is adjacent to another property with a similar use permitted under this section or a property in the B-L, B-VC or COM districts.
- 4. Employs no more than 5 persons who work on-site.
- 5. Where located in an existing building, the residential character of the structure and site shall be maintained.
- 3.359.1 Administrative business office or similar Bb usiness or professional office not providing services to the general public in person on the premises.

R-0 R-LD R-N R-VC R-G R-F B-G B-L B-VC COM OP LI PRP FPC N N SP N N SPR SPR SPR SPR SPR SPR N (SP)

Standards & Conditions

For the purposes of this section, the general public shall be defined as including all persons acting as customers or clients. Exceptions shall be affiliated professionals or consultants, salespersons, service contractors (delivery, maintenance, etc.), and the like. No office use under this section shall advertise its services as being available to customers and clients on the premises. Services shall be advertised as being available exclusively by telephone, mail, on-line, or other remote means.

In the R-VC District, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit for an administrative business office or similar business or for professional or-office uses not dealing directly with that does not provide services to the general public in person on the premises. The Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit providing it finds that, in addition to meeting the provisions of Article 7 and Section 10.38, the proposed office use meets the following conditions:

- 1. Is located on the ground floor only, and occupies no more than 50 percent of the gross floor area of the structure, exclusive of storage space.
- 2. Shall be allowed only as a second Principal use, where the first Principal use is a residential use consisting of one dwelling unit.
- 3. Shares a property line with or is adjacent to another property with a similar use permitted under this property in the B-L, B-VC or COM districts.
- 4. Employs no more than 5 persons who work on-site.
- 5. Where located in an existing building, the residential character of the structure and site shall be maintained.] Action taken 11/19/2007

ARTICLE 14. Petition - Allowing Professional Offices Accessible by Appointment in Some Zoning Districts (Coalition for Sustainable Neighborhoods)

DISMISSED ["To see if the Town will amend the Use Chart (Section 3.3) of the Zoning Bylaw, by adding the following new use as Section 3.360, and renumbering existing subsequent sections of the bylaw as necessary:

3.360 Technical or professional office such as architect, engineer, lawyer, financial services, or similar office providing services by appointment in person on the premises.

N	N	N	N	N	CDD	SDD	SPR	CDD	SDD	N	CDD	N
R-O R-LD	R-N	R-VC	R-G	R-F	B-G	B-L	B-VC	COM	OP	LI	PRP	FPC

In the PRP District, this use shall be limited to offices that employ 15 or more on-site staff on parcels served by town water and sewer. PRP District uses immediately adjoining a residential district shall maintain a 100-foot buffer of natural and undisturbed vegetation. PRP District offices shall provide only 45° downcast exterior door lighting; shall extinguish exterior sign and building face lighting, and parking lot lighting not needed for security of after- or before-hours staff at 9 pm or at the close of appointments whichever is earlier; and, shall provide signs directing exiting vehicles toward main thoroughfares and away from nearby residential streets."]

Action taken 11/19/2007

James W. Pistrang was elected Moderator pro tem for the duration of the discussion of Article 15. Mr. Pistrang was sworn to the faithful performance of his duties as Moderator pro tem before taking up Article 15.

David Mullins was sworn in as teller.

ARTICLE 15. Zoning Map and Bylaw - Spring Street Rezoning and General Business Lodging Uses (Planning Board)

VOTED to amend the Zoning Bylaw and the Official Zoning Map as follows:

- **A.1 VOTED by a declared two-thirds, as amended,** to amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning district designation of the following properties from General Residence (R-G) to General Business (B-G): Assessors Map 14A, Parcels 264, 265 and portions of the Town Common and Spring Street public ways, all as shown on Exhibit A.
- **A.2 VOTED by a declared two-thirds, as amended,** to amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning district designation of the following properties from General Residence (R-G) to General Business (B-G): Assessors Map 14A, Parcels 266 and portions of Churchill Street public ways, all as shown on Exhibit A.
- **A.3 VOTED by a declared two-thirds, as amended,** to amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning district designation of the following properties from General Residence (R-G) to General Business (B-G): Assessors Map 14A, Parcels 267, 268, 269, 270 and portions of the Town Common, Spring Street, and Churchill Street public ways, all as shown on Exhibit A.
- **B.1 DEFEATED Yes 100:** No **54, as amended.** [To amend Section 3.3 of the Zoning Bylaw to change the permit requirements for Section 3.327.0, Hotel/Motel from Special Permit (SP) to Site Plan Review (SPR) in the General Business (B-G) District only.]
- **B.2 VOTED by a declared two-thirds, as amended,** to amend Section 3.3 of the Zoning Bylaw to change the permit requirements for Section 3.327.1, Inn from Special Permit (SP) to Site Plan Review (SPR) in the General Business (B-G) District only.

 Action taken 11/19/2007

At 10:36 p.m. on the 19th day of November 2007, the meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, November 28, 2007 at 7:35 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 169 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The November 28, 2007 session, adjourned from November 19, 2007, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 8:44 p.m. following the dissolution of the Special Town Meeting called for November 28, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.

ARTICLE 16. Zoning Bylaw - Zoning Map - College/South East Street (Planning Board) **VOTED Yes 115; No 53** to amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning designation for the following properties, all on Assessor's Map 15C:

Parcel 47 – Rezone that portion of the property currently zoned R-N to COM.

Parcel 7 – Rezone those portions of the property currently zoned R-N and COM to B-VC.

Parcels 3, 4, 8, 9 and 41 – Rezone from R-N to B-VC.

Parcel 42 – Rezone from R-N and COM (portion) to R-VC.

Parcels 16 and 17 – Rezone the portions of these properties currently zoned COM to R-N.

Action taken 11/28/2007

ARTICLE 17. Petition - College/South East Street and Belchertown Road Rezoning (Coalition for Sustainable Neighborhoods)

DISMISSED ["To see if the Town will amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning designation for the following parcels, all on Assessor's Map 15C;

Parcel 47 – Rezone that portion of the parcel currently zoned R-N to COM.

Parcel 7 – Rezone the portions of the parcel currently zoned COM and R-N to B-VC

Parcels 8 – Rezone from R-N to B-VC.

Parcels 3, 4, 9 and 41 – Rezone from R-N to R-VC

Parcel 42 – Rezone from COM and R-N to R-VC

Parcels 16 and 17 – Rezone the portions of each parcel currently zoned COM to R-N."]

Action taken 11/28/2007

ARTICLE 18. Petition - Zoning Map - 500-502 Sunderland Road (Bergstrom)

VOTED unanimously to refer this article to the Planning Board ["To see if the Town will amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning district designation on Assessors Map 2A, Parcels 51 and 52 from Outlying Residence (R-O) and Low Density Residence/Farmland Conservation overlay (RLD/FC) to Village Center Residence (R-VC)."]

Action taken 11/28/2007

ARTICLE 19. Petition – Main/Dickinson/High Street Rezoning (Coalition for Sustainable Neighborhoods)

VOTED unanimously to refer this article to the Planning Board ["To see if the Town will amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning designation for the following parcels, all on Assessor's Map 14B:

Parcel 28 - Rezone from R-G to B-VC, contingent upon town meeting voting to authorize the Select

Board to accept a restrictive covenant foregoing some uses allowed in the B-VC District;

Parcels 53, 56, 57 and 130 - Rezone from COM to R-G

Parcels 58, 59 and 128 - Rezone from COM to B-VC

Parcel 66 – Rezone from R-G to B-VC, contingent upon town meeting voting to authorize the Select

Board to accept a restrictive covenant limiting future use of the property to the current use;

Parcels 129 and 234 – Rezone those portions of the parcels currently zoned COM to B-VC

Parcel 131 – Rezone from R-G to B-VC."]

Action taken 11/28/2007

ARTICLE 20. Petition – Waiver of Effluent Fees to UMASS – Strategic Partnership Agreement (Kelley)

DEFEATED ["To see if the town will strongly urge the Select Board to rescind their 9/17/07 3-2 vote as Sewer Commissioners to waive effluent fees to Umass, Amherst over the five years of the "strategic agreement."] Action taken 11/28/2007

The business of the warrant having been completed, the meeting voted to dissolve at 10:16 p.m. on Wednesday, November 28, 2007. 176 town meeting members were checked in.

Attest:

Sandra J. Burgess Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING November 28, 2007

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the Government Channel.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Harrison Gregg at 7:44 p.m. There were 247 town meeting members. 124 checked in and a quorum was declared. The call and the return of the warrant were read by Town Clerk, Sandra J. Burgess.

James W. Pistrang, Nonny Burack, Hilda B. Greenbaum, James E. Scott, Jeffrey C. Lee and Nancy M. Gordon were sworn in as tellers.

ARTICLE 1. Office Uses (Planning Board)

VOTED to amend Section 3.3, Footnote f. of Table 3, Dimensional Regulations, and Sections 7.104, 10.38, and 11.24 of the Zoning Bylaw, by deleting the lined out language and adding the language in bold italics, as follows:

A VOTED unanimously, as amended, to amend the second paragraph of Section 7.104, and Sections 10.392, 10.393, 11.2414 and 11.2417, as follows:

7.104

Driveways shall be located and designed so as to minimize conflict with traffic and provide clear visibility and sight distances for the observation of approaching pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The design and layout of driveways and circulation serving parking areas of 5 or more spaces shall prevent vehicles from backing into a street in order to exit the site. Circulation design, layout, and signs associated with non-residential uses shall direct exiting vehicles in a safe and convenient manner toward main thoroughfares and away from secondary streets passing through adjacent residential neighborhoods. No portion of the driveway at the edge of the street pavement shall be closer than 75 feet from an intersection, unless allowed by the Special Permit Granting Authority or Ppermit Granting Board.

10.392

The proposal provides adequate landscaping, including the screening of adjacent residential uses, provision of street trees, landscape islands in the parking lot and a landscape buffer along the street frontage. When a non-residential use adjoins a residential district, an uninterrupted vegetated buffer shall, to the extent feasible, be established and maintained between buildings associated with uses under this section and the nearest residential property boundaries. Where natural, undisturbed vegetation already exists on-site prior to site preparation and clearing, the majority of that vegetation may be retained and included as part of the buffer, along with the addition of such new plantings, selective removals, and other management of site plantings as are determined to be necessary to maintaining an effective year-round visual screen. See Section 11.3.

10.393

The proposal provides protection of adjacent properties by minimizing the intrusion of lighting, including parking lot and exterior lighting, through use of

cut-off luminaries, light shields, lowered height of light poles, screening, or similar solutions. Except for architectural and interior-lit signs, all exterior site lighting shall be downcast and shall be directed or shielded to eliminate light trespass onto any street or abutting property and to eliminate direct or reflected glare perceptible to persons on any street or abutting property and sufficient to reduce a viewer's ability to see. All site lighting, including architectural, sign, and parking lot lighting, shall be kept extinguished outside of those business hours established under an approved site management plan, except for lighting determined to be necessary for site security and the safety of employees and visitors.

11.2414

Provision of adequate landscaping, including the screening of adjacent residential uses, provision of street trees, landscape islands in the parking lot and a landscape buffer along the street frontage. When a non-residential use adjoins a residential district, an uninterrupted vegetated buffer shall, to the extent feasible, be established and maintained between buildings associated with uses under this section and the nearest residential property boundaries. Where natural, undisturbed vegetation already exists on-site prior to site preparation and clearing, the majority of that vegetation may be retained and included as part of the buffer, along with the addition of such new plantings, selective removals, and other management of site plantings as are determined to be necessary to maintaining an effective year-round visual screen. See Section 11.3.

11.2417

Protection of adjacent properties by minimizing the intrusion of lighting, including parking lot and building exterior lighting, through the use of cut-off luminaries, light shields, lowered height of light poles, screening or similar solutions. Except for architectural and interior-lit signs, all exterior site lighting shall be downcast and shall be directed or shielded to eliminate light trespass onto any street or abutting lot property and to eliminate direct or reflected glare perceptible to persons on any street or abutting property and sufficient to reduce a viewer's ability to see. All site lighting, including architectural, sign, and parking lot lighting, shall be kept extinguished outside of those business hours established under an approved site management plan, except for lighting determined to be necessary for site security and the safety of employees and visitors.

- **B VOTED unanimously** to amend Footnote f. of Table 3, Dimensional Regulations, as follows:
 - f. *Except as may be otherwise provided for specific uses, r*Rear and side yards shall be at least 50 feet when the affected property is adjoining a Residence District. Otherwise, rear and side yards shall be at least 10 feet.

C VOTED by a declared two-thirds to

combine and amend Sections 3.358 and 3.359 as follows, renumbering the remaining sections accordingly:

3.358 Office Uses

3.358.0 Bank, loan agency, real estate, insurance or other business or professional office providing services to the public in person on the premises.

R-0 R-LD R-N R-VC R-G R-F B-G B-L B-VC COM OP LI **PRP FPC** N N N N N SPR **SPR SPR SPR SPR** N N N

3.358.1 Technical or professional office such as architect, engineer, lawyer, financial services, or similar office providing services predominantly by appointment to the public in person on the premises.

R-0 LI R-LD R-N B-LB-VC COM OP **PRP** R-VC R-G R-FB-G **FPC** NNSPNN**SPR SPR SPR SPR SPR** N**SPR** N

Standards & Conditions

For the purposes of this section, the public shall be defined as including all persons acting as customers or clients receiving services. "Predominantly by appointment" shall mean that a majority of customers or clients who are provided services in person on the premises during any extended period of operation (monthly, quarterly, or annually) shall do so through prior appointment. Exceptions shall be discretionary follow-up visits by customers or clients with regard to services already provided, visits by affiliated professionals or consultants, salespersons, service contractors (delivery, maintenance, etc.), and the like. Office uses under this section shall advertise their on-premises services as being available to the general public only by appointment.

3.358.2 Administrative business office or similar B**business or professional office not providing services to the general public in person on the premises.**

R-0 R-LD R-N R-VC R-G B-VC COM OP LI R-F B-G B-L PRP **FPC** N N SP N N SPR SPR SPR SPR **SPR** SPR **SPR** N

For the purposes of these sections, the public shall be defined as including all persons acting as customers or clients. Exceptions shall be affiliated professionals or consultants, salespersons, service contractors (delivery, maintenance, etc.), and the like. No office use under section shall advertise its services as being available to customers and clients on the premises. Services shall be advertised as being available exclusively by telephone, mail, online, or other remote means.

-[For Sections 3.358.1 and 3.358.2, inclusive]

In the PRP District, uses under these sections shall be located on parcels served by town water and sewer. Notwithstanding the provisions of footnote f., of Table 3, Dimensional Regulations, when a use under these sections is located on a property adjoining a residential district, a minimum 50-foot uninterrupted vegetated buffer shall be established and maintained between buildings associated with uses under this section and the nearest residential property boundaries. When the Special Permit Granting Authority or Permit Granting Board determine that an increased buffer is warranted and the subject property and site layout allow, a vegetated buffer of up to 100 feet in width may be required. Said buffer may include any drives or roadways.

In the R-VC District, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit for *an office use under Sections 3.358.1 or 3.358.2* professional or office uses not dealing directly with the general public. The Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit providing it finds that, in addition to meeting the provisions of Article 7 and Section 10.38, the proposed office use meets the following conditions:

- 6. Is located on the ground floor only, and occupies no more than 50 percent of the gross floor area of the structure, exclusive of storage space.
- 7. Shall be allowed only as a second Principal use, where the first Principal use is a residential use consisting of one dwelling unit.
- 8. Shares a property line with or is adjacent to another property with a similar use permitted under this section or a property in the B-L, B-VC or COM districts.
- 4. Employs no more than 3 persons (for a Section 3.358.1 office) or 5 persons (Section 3.358.2) who work on-site, other than residents of the property.
- 5. Where located in an existing building, the residential character of the structure and site shall be maintained.

Action taken 11/28/2007

The business of the warrant having been completed, the meeting voted to dissolve at 8:43 p.m. on Wednesday, November 28, 2007. 176 town meeting members were checked in.

Attest:

Sandra J. Burgess Town Clerk

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY February 5, 2008

In accordance with the warrant the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. The voters cast their ballots in their respective precincts. The results were as follows:

DEMOCRATIC

 $\underline{1} \qquad \underline{2} \qquad \underline{3} \qquad \underline{4} \qquad \underline{5} \qquad \underline{6} \qquad \underline{7} \qquad \underline{8} \qquad \underline{9} \qquad \underline{10} \quad \underline{Total}$

John R. Edwards Hillary Clinton Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Christopher J. Dodd Mike Gravel Barack Obama Dennis J. Kucinich Bill Richardson No Preference	6 136 1 0 1 291 4 0	5 242 1 0 0 477 3 0	5 104 0 0 1 213 1 0	3 104 0 0 1 215 0 0	14 167 0 0 0 351 1 0	13 305 0 1 2 611 8 1	8 236 1 0 1 527 4 1 3	14 364 0 1 0 749 4 3 0	6 194 0 0 2 465 8 0	7 102 0 0 0 242 6 0	81 1954 3 2 8 4141 39 5 6
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Blanks	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
Total	440	728	325	324	533	941	782	1137	677	358	6245
State Committee Man											
William R. Rosen	246	380	187	160	295	529	444	633	381	204	3459
All Others	1	0	0	2	2	0	2	1	6	1	15
Blanks	193	348	138	162	236	412	336	503	290	153	2770
Total	440	728	325	324	533	941	782	1137	677	358	6245
State Committee Woman											
Janet Sinclair	244	373	184	158	300	516	443	619	384	200	3421
All Others	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	5	0	10
Blanks	196	355	141	164	232	425	338	517	288	158	2814
Total	440	728	325	324	533	941	782	1137	677	358	6245
Town Committee											
*Diana B. Stein	0	1	1	0	4	7	4	9	10	2	38
*Merrylees Turner	0	1	0	0	7	7	3	9	6	2	35
*Thomas F. Plaut	0	1	1	0	2	7	4	8	9	1	33
*Anne S. Awad	0	1	0	0	4	8	3	9	6	1	32
*Ellen Story	0	1	1	0	4	9	3	8	5	1	32
*Joan Ross Logan	0	1	1	0	3	10	3	8	5	1	32
*Leo C. Maley III	0	1	1	0	5	7	3	9	5	1	32
*Paul E. Drummond	0	1	1	0	2	12	3	7	5	1	32
*Peter Vickery	0	1	0	0	5	8	3	9	5	1	32
*H. Oldham Brooks	0	1	0	0	4	7 7	3	9	6	1	31 31
*Sarah McKee *Carol Jeannette Gray	0	1 1	1 0	0	4 4	7	3 4	8 8	6 5	1 1	30
*Keri L. Heitner	0	1	1	0	3	8	3	8	<i>5</i>	1	30
*Mary L. Wentworth	0	1	0	2	1	7	3	9	6	1	30
*Alice C. Swift	0	1	1	0	3	7	3	8	5	1	29
*John C. Bonifaz	0	1	2	0	3	7	3	7	5	1	29
*Richard E. Fay	0	1	1	0	1	8	3	8	6	1	29
*Ruth E. Backes	0	1	0	0	5	7	3	7	5	1	29
*Steven D. Brewer	0	1	1	0	2	8	3	8	5	1	29
*Bruce K. Lee	0	1	0	0	3	7	3	7	6	1	28
*Eduardo U. Suarez-											
Fernandez	0	2	0	0	3	7	3	7	5	1	28
*Janet Klausner-Wise	0	1	1	0	2	7	3	8	5	1	28
*Jean G. Fay	0	1	1	0	1	8	3	8	6	0	28
*Michael Wolff	0	1	1	0	3	7	3	7	5	1	28
*Richard N. Bentley	0	1	0	0	2	7	3	7	5	3	28
*Herschel S. Shohan	0	1	0	0	2	7	3	8	5	1	27
*G. Devon Bascomb	0	1	0	0	2	7	3	7	5	1	26

*6.1 : F. 6	0		0	0		0	2	7	_		26
*Sylvia E. Cuomo	0	1	0	0	1	8	3	7	5	1	26
*Joseph S. Tarallo	0	1	0	0	1	7	3	7	5	1	25
*Chadwick Johnson	0	1	0	0	0	7	3	7	0	0	18
*Hwei-Ling Greeney	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	6
All Others	6	8	4	21	10	7	16	23	26	9	130
Blanks	15394	25440	11355	11317	18556	32700	27261	39535	23507		217554
Total	15400	25480	11375	11340	18655	32935	27370	39795	23695	12530	218575
		DI	DITOI	TCLA NI	D A D/TS	7					
	<u>1</u>	2 2	<u>3</u>	1CAN 1 <u>4</u>	PARTY <u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	10	Total
Presidential Preference	<u>T</u>	<u>4</u>	<u> </u>	크	<u> </u>	<u>U</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>o</u>	<u> </u>	10	<u>10tai</u>
John McCain	24	36	28	33	25	52	41	70	20	10	339
Fred Thompson	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Tom Tancredo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duncan Hunter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mike Huckabee	4	6	0	0	2	8	7	4	1	1	33
Mitt Romney	12	25	12	7	13	34	18	50	12	9	192
Ron Paul	4	5	2	2	2	6	7	7	10	2	47
Rudy Giuliani	1	1	0	1	0	0	ó	2	0	0	5
No Preference	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Blanks	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Total	46	75	42	44	44	102	73	134	43	23	626
1000	40	75	72			102	75	104	43	20	020
State Committee Man											
Isaac James Mass	19	21	21	20	21	45	26	63	17	10	263
All Others	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Blanks	27	54	21	24	21	57	46	71	26	13	360
Total	46	75	42	44	44	102	73	134	43	23	626
State Committee Woman		0	0			ō	0		0	0	
All Others	4	0	0	0	2	0	8	0	0	0	14
Blanks	42	75 	42	44	42	102	65	134	43	23	612
Total	46	75	42	44	44	102	73	134	43	23	626
Town Committee											
Paulette C. Brooks	15	12	14	15	15	39	26	48	15	10	209
Florence M. Boynton	17	13	17	15	16	36	28	54	17	12	225
Doris R. Holden	17	17	17	22	20	40	27	62	19	11	252
Daniel E. Clapp	17	18	17	18	15	38	28	54	16	10	231
Barbara A. Fenton	18	14	18	16	21	37	27	57	15	11	234
All Others	3	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	1	0	10
Blanks	1523	2551	1387	1454	1452	3377	2417	4415	1422	751	20749
Total	1610	2625	1470	1540	1540	3570	2555	4690	1505	805	21910
	1				W PAR		7	0	0	10	To4a1
Dungidantial Dunfavor as	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Total</u>
Presidential Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jared Ball	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ralph Nader	0	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	7	0	15
Elaine Brown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kat Swift	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cynthia McKinney	3	1	1	0	2	1	0	3	5	0	16

Kent Mesplay No Preference All Others Blanks Total	0 0 1 0 5	0 0 0 0 3	0 0 0 0 2	1 0 0 0 3	2 0 2 0 7	0 1 1 0 4	0 0 0 0	0 0 1 0 5	1 0 0 0 13	0 1 0 0 1	4 2 5 0 43
State Committee Man	C		-	J	•	•	v	Č	10	•	
All Others	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Blanks	5	3	1	3	7	4	0	5	13	1	42
Total	5	3	2	3	7	4	0	5	13	1	43
State Committee Woman											
All Others	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Blanks	5	3	1	3	7	4	0	5	13	1	42
Total	5	3	2	3	7	4	0	5	13	1	43
Town Committee											
Frank M. Gatti	4	2	2	2	1	2	0	5	8	1	27
Eleanor R. Manire-Gatti	4	2	2	2	1	1	0	4	8	1	25
Robert J. Crowner	4	2	2	2	1	1	0	4	10	1	27
Vincent J. O'Connor	5	2	2	1	2	1	0	4	8	1	26
Thomas Paul Flittie	4	2	2	2	2	1	0	4	8	1	26
Emily G. Lewis	4	2	2	2	3	2	0	4	8	1	28
Laurence D. Ely, III	4	2	2	2	3	1	0	4	8	1	27
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	21	16	6	17	57 7 0	31	0	21	72	3	244
Total	50	30	20	30	70	40	0	50	130	10	430
			RKING								
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Total</u>
Presidential Preference	0	0			0	0	0	0	0		
No Preference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
State Committee Man											
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3 3
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
State Committee Woman											
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3 3
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Town Committee											
All Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	10	27
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	10	30
* write-in											
Pct Dem. Dem.	Rep.	Rep.	G-R	G-R	WF	WI	T Une	enrolled	P.M.	9/	6

	Ballots Cast	Reg.	Ballots Cast	Reg.	Ballots Cast	Reg.	Ballots Cast	Reg.	Voters	Return	Voting
1	440	675	46	86	5	19	0	0	715	9:30	32.54
2	728	852	75	93	3	9	0	0	536	9:45	53.88
3	325	493	42	72	2	11	0	0	494	11:25	34.29
4	324	559	44	73	3	3	0	0	453	11:01	33.79
5	533	714	44	95	7	19	0	1	649	11:01	39.33
6	941	1078	102	141	4	21	0	0	859	9:35	49.57
7	782	960	73	113	0	19	1	1	808	11:17	44.63
8	1137	1344	134	176	5	32	0	0	912	10:00	51.56
9	677	985	43	119	13	32	1	1	921	11:00	35.46
10	358	546	23	51	1	5	1	0	486	10:25	35.07
Total	6245	8206	626	1019	43	170	3	3	6833		42.36

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Dem.} = \text{Democratic Party} & \text{G-R} = \text{Green-Rainbow Party} \\ \text{Rep.} = \text{Republican Party} & \text{WF} = \text{Working Families} \\ \end{array}$

The public announcement was made at 11:30 p.m. 6,917 ballots were cast, representing 42.36% of the 16,231 registered voters qualified to vote in the February 5, 2008 Presidential Primary.

Attest:

Sandra J. Burgess Town Clerk

RESULTS ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION April 1, 2008

In accordance with the Warrant, the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. The voters cast their ballots in their respective precincts. The results were as follows:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
MODERATOR											
Harrison L. Gregg	113	291	162	138	153	321	230	439	219	110	2176
*Nancy M. Gordon	47	85	32	26	94	102	125	184	93	63	851
All Others	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	5
Blanks	34	96	29	45	54	103	73	130	66	37	667
TOTAL	194	472	223	209	302	528	429	754	378	210	3699
SELECT BOARD											
Stephanie J. O'Keeffe	115	305	142	145	147	315	206	421	230	116	2142
*Irvin E. Rhodes	38	79	49	29	71	103	150	190	55	31	795
*Hwei-Ling Greeney	77	175	68	58	141	197	169	291	123	95	1394
Diana B. Stein	118	275	139	136	164	318	227	445	264	118	2204
*David T. Keenan	5	26	7	8	18	32	26	42	19	13	196
All Others	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
Blanks	35	84	40	42	62	91	80	119	64	47	664
TOTAL	388	944	446	418	604	1056	858	1508	756	420	7398
SCHOOL COMMITTE	E										
Catherine A. Sanderson	97	328	145	147	172	363	245	219	219	123	2058
*Chrystel D. Romero	66	86	56	35	89	126	138	147	109	55	907
•				22	0						

229

All Others Blanks TOTAL	0 31 194	0 58 472	0 22 223	0 27 209	1 40 302	0 39 528	1 45 429	0 388 754	0 50 378	0 32 210	2 732 3699
101111	1,			_0>	202	020	>	,	0.0	-10	2077
JONES LIBRARY TRUS											
Christopher J. Hoffmann	62	170	78	81	119	208	181	277	138	84	1398
Patricia G. Holland	110	243	124	100	175	274	234	394	197	110	1961
All Others	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	10
Blanks	215	529	243	237	310	574	441	834	420	226	4029
TOTAL	388	944	446	418	604	1056	858	1508	756	420	7398
JONES LIBRARY TRUS	STEE (1	two vea	rs)								
Louis S. Greenbaum	109	238	119	97	171	288	245	391	217	116	1991
All Others	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	2	0	1	9
Blanks	85	234	104	111	128	239	183	361	161	93	1699
TOTAL	194	472	223	209	302	528	429	754	378	210	3699
	ATTIT V	17 11 1									
ELECTOR, OLIVER SM John W. Coull	711 H v	209	87	72	104	189	130	273	132	70	1336
*Kevin P. Joy	38	79	46	37	78	124	152	162	108	38	862
All Others	0	1	1	0	1	124	132	102	0	1	7
Blanks	86	183	89	100	119	214	146	318	138	101	1494
TOTAL	194	472	223	209	302	528	429	754	378	210	3699
REDEVELOPMENT AU					100	40=	4 70	222	0.5		0.64
*Carol Jeannette Gray	47	86	51	28	100	137	158	223	86	45	961
Margaret R. Roberts	58	175	82	91	97	171	129	246	166	72	1287
All Others	0	0	0	0	1	0	142	2	0	1 92	1447
Blanks TOTAL	89 194	211 472	90 223	90 209	104 302	220 528	142 429	283 754	126 378	92 210	1447 3699
IUIAL	194	4/2	223	209	302	546	429	754	3/0	210	3099
REDEVELOPMENT A	UTHO	RITY (1	three y	ears)							
Aaron A. Hayden	65	184	95	107	114	209	161	335	134	69	1473
*James Burgess Oldham	49	92	40	28	105	117	136	156	116	53	892
All Others	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	5
Blanks	79	196	88	74	81	202	132	262	128	87	1329
TOTAL	194	472	223	209	302	528	429	754	378	210	3699

^{*} Defeated

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS

Precinct I, three years (8)					
Eric N. Nazar	105	Patricia G. Holland	103		
Kenton F. Tharp	114	James J. Wald	110		
Hilda B. Greenbaum	94	Louis S. Greenbaum	94		
Vincent J. O'Connor	103	Flo R. Stern	100		
Adrienne Levine James W. Pistrang	168 186 250 231	Alice A. Carlozzi *Deborah Zeidenberg Daniel E. Clapp Barbara C. Ford	217 119 205 231	Isaac BenEzra Barbara M. Levine	193 205

Precinct III, three years (8)

Precinct III, two years (1)

Merle L. Howes Lawrence Orloff	121 84	John S. Ingram Sonya Bergquist	103 123	Robert B. Kusner	90
Nancy N. Gregg	137	Lynne K. Weintraub	94		
*Denise R. Kim-Kusner	71	Peter Vickery	131		
Peter J. Gray-Mullen	109				
Precinct IV, three years (8)		Precinct IV, two years (1)		Precinct IV, one year (1)	
George E. Ryan	108	Carol M. Johnson	136	Doris R. Holden	125
Kay J. Moran	132				
Baer Tierkel	122				
Patrick E. Brock	105				
Steven A. Shumway	110				
Alan W. Powell	86				
@+Lauren C. Kanner	1				
@+Lynne W. Stern	1				
Tura vivita in andidatan maasing		satan anala Dath da alimad thain a	14:	Tl 1: - 1	

Two write-in candidates received two votes each. Both declined their election. The next highest vote getters all received one vote each. In accordance with Section 1.541 of the Amherst Town Government Act a special meeting of the remaining Precinct 4 town meeting members was held on April 16, 2008 and Lauren C. Kanner and Lynne W. Stern were elected to fill the remaining two vacancies.

Precinct V, three years (8)		Precinct V, two years (1)		Precinct V, one year (2)	
Donald S. Pitkin	165	George R. Scialoia	168	Ruth E. Backes	156
Nancy E. Foster	159			Marilyn J. Rodzwell	148
James Burgess Oldham	150				
Chrystel D. Romero	158				
Patricia K. Church	149				
@Kevin Eddings	6				
@Barry Federman	2				
+@ Zella B. Harrington	1				

A write-in candidate who received five write-in votes declined the position. The next highest vote getters had 1 vote each. In accordance with Section 1.541 of the Amherst Town Government Act a special meeting of the remaining Precinct 5 town meeting members was held on April 16, 2008 and Zella B. Harrington was elected to fill the vacancy

Precinct VI, three years (8)				Precinct VI, one year (1)	
Faythe E. Turner	227	H. Oldham Brooks	199	Paulette C. Brooks	162
Kevin J. Hannon	149	Gordon A. Freed	267	*Peter C.K. Michaels	116
*Stanley Maron	125	Douglas Wesley Slaughter	207	*Joseph M. Wronka	39
Marilyn Hecht Blaustein	294	Jeffrey D. Blaustein	284	_	
Ralph P. Hill	207				
Precinct VII, three years (8)					
Alice B. Morse	211	Irvin E. Rhodes	292	Kenneth R. Hoffman	155
Harvey D. Allen	181	*Michael Anthony Bell, Jr.	108	*Michael D. Olkin	106
Adrienne M. Terrizzi	229	*Steven Phillip Hoeschele	115	Gina M. Fusco	215
Ernest J. Dalkas	129	Karen Marie Lennon	185	*David T. Keenan	111
Precinct VIII, three years (8)				Precinct VIII, one year (2)	
John W. Kick	223	Barry L. Roberts	401	Kerry Ana Manire	280
Jenifer E. McKenna	347	*Frank M. Gatti	219	Adan D. Martinez	298
Mary Streeter	285	*Eleanor R. Manire-Gatti	188		
*Laurence D. Ely III	187	*Sean R. DeMoranville	107		
*Robert Todd Felton	217	Ruth F. Hooke	274		
Aaron A. Hayden	328	Charles E. Clifton	228		

Precinct IX, three years (8)

Otto L. Stein	257	Dade Singapuri	154	@+Michael A. Ash	1
^Diana B. Stein	270	+Steven G. Randall	129	@+Robie Hubley	1
Robert J. Crowner	147	Denise Renee Barberet	138		
Felicity P. Callahan	177	Jonathan P. O'Keeffe	177		
Emily G. Lewis	142				

Two vacancies occurred in Precinct 9 due to Stephanie O'Keeffe's election to the Select Board and a resignation received after the election. In accordance with Section 1.541 of the Amherst Town Government Act, a special meeting of the remaining Precinct 9 town meeting members was held on April 16, 2008 and Michael A. Ash and Robie Hubley were elected to fill the two remaining vacancies vacancies.

Precinct X, three years (8)		Precinct X, two years (3)		Precinct X, one year (1)	
Nancy M. Gordon	124	William Alan Miller	112	Regina B. Rheault	103
Jeremiah M. Allen	110	Philip S. Jackson	124		
Richard N. Bentley	117	Keith R. Ulrich	121		
Hwei-Ling Greeney	138				
Tambetsu Moran Parks	96				
Brett J. Butler	114				
Stephen R. Braun	114				
Lewis C. Mainzer	139				

[@] Write-In Candidates

[^] Ex-Officio Town Meeting Member

Precinct	Ballots Cast	Number Registered	PM Return Time	% Turnout
1	194	1501	9:06	12.92
2	472	1498	9:30	31.51
3	223	1079	9:45	20.67
4	209	1077	9:34	19.41
5	302	1495	9:34	20.20
6	528	2109	9:05	25.04
7	429	1938	9:35	22.14
8	754	2504	10:04	30.11
9	378	2040	8:50	18.53
10	210	1088	9:27	19.30
TOTAL	3699	16329		22.65

The public announcement was made at 10:04 p.m. on April 1, 2008. 3,699 ballots were cast, representing 22.65% of the 16,329 voters registered.

Attest:

Sandra J. Burgess Town Clerk

RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
April 28, 30, May 5, 12, 14, 19, 21, 28, June 2 and 11, 2008

^{*} Defeated

⁺ Section 1.541 Amherst Town Government Act

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the government channel.

The 249th Annual Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Harrison Gregg at 7:40 p.m.* There were 254 town meeting members. 128 checked in and a quorum was declared. The call and the return of the warrant were read by Town Clerk, Sandra J. Burgess.

The Town Moderator was sworn to the faithful performance of his duties. Town meeting members were sworn to the faithful performance of their duties.

The Moderator acknowledged the election of town wide officers, and asked the meeting to remember those current and former town meeting members who had died in the past year. Remembered were: John Dittfach, Caroline Olson, and Ned Markert. Nathaniel Reed and Frederick W. Steinbeck were also remembered for their service to the town as Select Board members.

Town Meeting voted to consider Article 8 at 7:30 p.m. on May 19, 2008.

ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees (Select Board)

VOTED unanimously to hear only those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form. Action taken on 4/28/2008.

Reports were heard from the Town Meeting Coordinating Committee, Comprehensive Planning Committee, and the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee.

ARTICLE 2. Transfer of Funds – Unpaid Bills (Select Board)

DISMISSED [To see if the Town will, in accordance with Chapter 44, section 64, of the Massachusetts General Laws, appropriate and transfer a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years.] Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 3. Optional Tax Exemptions (Select Board)

VOTED unanimously to authorize a maximum additional exemption of up to 100 percent for taxpayers qualifying for exemption under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clauses 17D, 22, 37A, or 41C of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 4. Personal Property Exemptions (Select Board)

VOTED unanimously to authorize the maximum exemption of up to \$5,000 for personal property accounts of \$5,000 or less under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54th of the Massachusetts General Laws. Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 5 Authorization for Compensating Balances (Select Board)

VOTED to accept the provisions of Chapter 44, section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws, which authorize the Treasurer to enter into written agreements with banking institutions pursuant to which the Treasurer agrees to maintain funds on deposit in exchange for banking services. Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 6. Retirement Assessment (Select Board)

VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate \$2,917,009 for the Hampshire County Retirement System assessment.

Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 7. Regional Lockup Assessment (Select Board)

VOTED to raise and appropriate \$31,323 for the Hampshire County Regional Lockup Facility assessment.

Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 8. FY 08 Budget Amendments (Finance Committee)

VOTED to amend the action taken under Article 17 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting – Fiscal Year 2008 Operating Budget by increasing the appropriations and the amounts to be raised by taxation for the following accounts by \$254,000: Public Safety by \$184,000 and Public Works by \$70,000, and to meet such increased appropriation by decreasing the appropriation and the amount to be raised by taxation for the following accounts by \$254,000: General Government by \$122,000, Planning, Conservation, and Inspections by \$69,000, and Community Services by \$63,000. Action taken 5/19/2008.

ARTICLE 9. Town Libraries Revolving Fund (Jones Library Trustees)

DISMISSED [To see if the Town will approve the creation of a revolving fund, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 53E ½, and any other authority, into which library overdue fines will be deposited and used for library operations.

Action taken 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 10. Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Assessment Method (Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee)

VOTED unanimously to approve following the existing Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Agreement for allocating the total amount to be contributed by each member town of the District for Fiscal Year 2009 as required by Section VI of the Regional Agreement. Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 11. Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Assessment Method (Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee)

A. VOTED unanimously to approve an amendment to Section X of the Regional Agreement of the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District to shift the cost of providing transportation to elementary school students from the regional budget to the budgets of the elementary school districts served. Action taken 4/28/2008.

B VOTED unanimously to approve an amendment to Section VI of the Regional Agreement of the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District to read 'If the amount of unencumbered surplus funds of the district at the end of any fiscal year exceeds 5.0 percent of the budgeted operating and capital costs for the succeeding fiscal year, an amount at least equal to the amount of such excess shall be applied by the committee to reduce the amounts certified to the participating towns for such succeeding fiscal year in accordance with Section VII.

Action taken on 4/28/2008.

ARTICLE 12. FY2009 Operating Budget (Finance Committee)

PUBLIC SAFETY

VOTED to appropriate \$8,160,644 for Public Safety and to meet such appropriation \$6,362,614 be raised by taxation and \$1,798,030 be transferred from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account.

Action taken on 4/28/2008.

*A motion made by Ms. Stern to increase Public Safety by \$97,356 was defeated.

At 10:16 p.m. on April 28, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, April 30, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 194 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The April 30, 2008 session, adjourned from April 28, 2007, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:39 p.m. 128 town meeting members were checked in.

Town Meeting voted the following procedural motions:

To consider the Elementary School and Regional School sections of Article 12 at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 5.

To consider Article 26 on Monday, May 19 at 7:35 p.m.

Jeffrey C. Lee, James W. Pistrang, H. Oldham Brooks, Hilda B. Greenbaum, Nancy M. Gordon, and Nonny Burack were sworn in as tellers by the Moderator.

PUBLIC WORKS

VOTED to raise and appropriate \$1,726,974 for Public Works.

Action taken on 4/30/2008.

*A motion made by Mr. O'Connor to increase Public Works by \$60,000 was defeated.

PLANNING/CONSERVATION/INSPECTIONS

VOTED YES 121, NO 52 to raise and appropriate \$851,853 for Planning/Conservation/ Inspections. Action taken 4/30/2008.

*Motions were made to decrease Planning/Conservation/Inspections: Mr. Gawle by \$36,861, Mr. Smith by \$80,000, and Ms. Greeney by \$85,843. The Finance Committee motion was voted on first in accordance with Article 1, Section 7, of the Town of Amherst General Bylaws. The Finance Committee motion passed and the three motions to decrease failed by default.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

VOTED to raise and appropriate \$1,699,567 for Community Services.

Action taken on 4/30/2008.

*A motion made by Mr. O'Connor to increase Community Services by \$29,288 was defeated. Tally vote: Yes 65, No 94.

* * *

At 10:25 p.m. on April 30, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, May 5, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 187 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The May 5, 2008 session, adjourned from April 30, 2008, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:42 p.m. 128 town meeting members were checked in.

Procedural Motion

James Scott was sworn in as teller prior to the tally vote on the procedural motion.

VOTED Yes 121, No 69, as amended, that consideration of the Library Services Budget be postponed to 7:30 p.m. on May 12, 2008, and that consideration of the Elementary and Regional School budgets be postponed to Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. and that all other motions under Article 12 be considered in the order in which they appear in the Finance Committee booklet.

*A vote on the main motion would have postponed the Library Services budget to May 12, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. and have the Elementary and Regional School budgets considered in the order in which they appear in the Finance Committee booklet.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

VOTED to appropriate \$6,152,525 for General Government, that the salary of the Moderator be fixed at \$100, that of the Select Board at \$300 each, that of the Elector under the Oliver Smith Will at \$20, and to meet such appropriation \$6,066,737 be raised by taxation and \$85,788 be transferred from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved For Appropriation Account.

Action taken on 5/5/2008.

*Motions were made by Mr. O'Connor to increase General Government by \$60,000, and by Mr. Gawle to decrease General Government by \$43,000. The O'Connor amendment was voted on first in accordance with Article 1, Section 7, of the Town of Amherst General Bylaws. The O'Connor amendment was defeated. The Finance Committee motion passed and the Gawle motion to decrease failed by default.

DEBT SERVICE

VOTED to appropriate \$1,446,361 for payment of the Town's General Fund indebtedness, and to meet such appropriation \$1,359,779 be raised by taxation and \$86,582 be appropriated and transferred from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues.

Action taken on 5/5/2008.

LIBRARY SERVICES

VOTED to approve the Library Services operating budget of \$2,128,147, and to raise and appropriate \$1,490,385, appropriate and transfer \$650 from the Herbert B. Adams Fund, and appropriate and transfer \$550 from the R.J.D. Westcott Fund as its share of that budget.

Action Taken on 5/12/2008

*O'Connor motion to increase the Library Services operating budget by \$25,000 was defeated. BenEzra motion to increase by \$11,000 was defeated by tally vote: Yes 63, No 117.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

VOTED to raise and appropriate \$20,689,430 for the Amherst Elementary Schools. Action taken on 5/21/2008.

*A motion to postpone consideration of the Elementary and Regional School budgets to Wednesday, May 28, 2008, was defeated. Yes 82, No 103.

**Motions were made by Michael Ash to increase the Elementary School Budget by \$400,000, and by Nancy Gordon to decrease by \$1,000,000. The Ash amendment was voted on first in accordance with Article 1, Section 7, of the Town of Amherst General Bylaws. The Ash amendment was defeated. The Finance Committee motion passed and the Gordon motion to decrease failed by default.

REGIONAL SCHOOL

VOTED to approve the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District operating and capital budget of \$28,120,995 and to raise and appropriate \$12,395,375 as its share of that budget. Action taken on 5/21/2008.

*A motion to postpone consideration of the Elementary and Regional School budgets to Wednesday, May 28, 2008, was defeated. Yes 82, No 103.

At 9:50 p.m. on May 21, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, May 28, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 191 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

VOTED unanimously to appropriate \$4,224,006 for the Water Fund and to meet such appropriation \$3,974,006 be made available from Water Fund revenues of the current year and \$250,000 be transferred from Water Fund Surplus.

Action taken on 5/5/2008.

SEWER FUND

VOTED to appropriate \$3,670,647 for the Sewer Fund and to meet such appropriation \$3,670,647 be made available from Sewer Fund revenues of the current year.

Action taken on 5/5/2008.

*A motion made by Mr. Gawle to increase the Sewer Fund by \$37,000 was defeated.

SOLID WASTE FUND

VOTED unanimously to appropriate \$625,524 for the Solid Waste Fund and to meet such appropriation \$516,300 be made available from Solid Waste Fund revenues of the current year and \$109,224 be transferred from Solid Waste Fund Surplus.

Action taken on 5/5/2008.

TRANSPORTATION FUND

VOTED unanimously to appropriate \$1,010,754 for the Transportation Fund and to meet such appropriation \$912,000 be made available from Transportation Fund revenues of the current year and \$98,754 be transferred from Transportation Fund Surplus. Action taken on 5/5/2008.

At 10:03 p.m. on May 5, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, May 12, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 204 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The May 12, 2008 session, adjourned from May 5, 2008 was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:41 p.m. 128 town meeting members were checked in.

Town Meeting voted the following procedural motions:

To consider Article 17, Part C at 7:31 p.m. on May 19, 2008.

To consider Article 20, Part B at 7:30 p.m. on May 28, 2008.

Town Meeting resumed with Article 12 – Library Services

ARTICLE 13. Reserve Fund (Finance Committee)

VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate \$100,000 for the Reserve Fund for FY 2009. Action taken on 5/12/2008.

ARTICLE 14. Capital Program – Chapter 90 (Joint Capital Planning Committee)

VOTED to authorize the expenditure of \$610,000 of Chapter 90 funds for qualifying purposes and further authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement of these funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Action taken on 5/12/2008.

*Gawle amendment to restrict use of Chapter 90 for road maintenance and repairs was defeated.

ARTICLE 15. Capital Program – Equipment (Joint Capital Planning Committee)

VOTED to appropriate \$1,226,400 to purchase, repair, and/or install new or replacement equipment, and to meet such appropriation, \$1,086,400 be raised by taxation, \$32,000 be transferred from Article 21

of the 2005 Annual Town Meeting (Vehicle Washer), \$80,000 be transferred from Article 34 of the 2006 Annual Town Meeting (Marks Meadow Portable Classrooms), and \$28,000 be transferred from Article 31 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting (Police Station HVAC improvements). Action taken on 5/12/2008.

ARTICLE 16. Capital Program – Buildings and Facilities (Joint Capital Planning Committee) **VOTED** to appropriate \$143,000 to repair and/or improve buildings and facilities, and to meet such appropriation, \$93,000 be raised by taxation and \$50,000 be transferred from Article 21 of the 2005 Annual Town Meeting (Vehicle Washer). Action taken on 5/12/2008.

ARTICLE 17. Capital Program – Bond Authorizations (Joint Capital Planning Committee) **A. VOTED by a declared two-thirds** to appropriate \$420,000 to pay costs of roof replacement and other extraordinary repairs to the Bangs Community Center, and to meet such appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow \$420,000 in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7, Clause (3A), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Action taken on 5/12/2008.

- **B. VOTED** to raise and appropriate \$635,000 for the purchase of firefighting apparatus. Action taken on 5/12/2008.
- C. VOTED by a declared two-thirds to amend the actions taken under Article 5 of the Special Town Meeting held on November 5, 2007, and appropriate \$105,000 to pay costs of purchasing portable classrooms for the use of the School Department and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, which amount shall be expended in addition to the \$195,000 previously appropriated for this purpose, and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(9) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore. Action taken 5/19/2008.

ARTICLE 18. Community Preservation Act – Affordable Housing (Community Preservation Act Committee)

VOTED unanimously to amend, in part, the action taken under Article 24 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting, which, among other things, authorized the appropriation of \$150,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance to provide three deferred payment loans to low and moderate income households to purchase homes in Amherst, to instead authorize the use of said funds to provide purchase price buy-down assistance to three first time homebuyers and to acquire affordable housing restrictions meeting the requirements of M.G.L. c.184, §§ 31-33 on each of the homes purchased through the use of such assistance, and further to authorize the Select Board to accept such affordable housing restrictions, sign any instruments and take any other action necessary to carry out this vote. Action taken on 5/12/2008.

At 9:58 p.m. on May 12, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 188 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The May 14, 2008 session, adjourned from May 12, 2008 was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:44 p.m. 127 town meeting members were checked in.

Town Meeting voted to postpone consideration of Article 24 to May 21, 2008, after the Elementary and Regional School budgets.

ARTICLE 19. Community Preservation Act – Affordable Housing (Community Preservation Act Committee)

A. VOTED unanimously as amended to appropriate and transfer \$150,000 from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for the purpose of creating community housing on a parcel of Town-owned land located on Olympia Drive, identified as a certain parcel of land located on Olympia Drive, Amherst, Massachusetts, which parcel is the northwestern portion of the land taken pursuant to an Order of Taking dated July 13, 1987, and recorded in the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Book 3018, Page 309, also being a portion of Assessors Map 8D, Parcel 20, and containing 13.5 acres, more or less, with said funds to be used to obtain any and all permits and approvals, including, without limitation, a comprehensive permit, necessary or convenient for the development and construction of a housing project on said property, for the design and construction of said housing, and for such other costs and expenses necessary or incidental to the foregoing, which housing shall be subject to an affordable housing restriction meeting the requirements of M.G.L. c.184, §§ 31-33, reserving at least 25% of the units in the development for sale to or rental by low and/or moderate income individuals or households, and further to authorize the Select Board to accept such affordable housing restriction, sign any instruments and take any other action necessary to carry out this vote for Olympia Drive. Action taken on 5/14/2008

B. VOTED unanimously as amended to appropriate and transfer \$30,000 from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for the purpose of creating community housing by assisting the Habitat for Humanity/Amherst College affordable housing construction project on land shown as Parcel 1 on Assessors Map 18A, pursuant to a grant agreement with the Habitat for Humanity and/or Amherst College, and further to authorize the Select Board to enter into said grant agreement, which agreement shall set forth the terms and conditions under which such funds may be expended, provided, however, that said agreement shall include a requirement that the Town be granted an affordable housing restriction on such property meeting the requirements of M.G.L. c.184, §§ 31-33, and further to authorize the Select Board to accept said affordable housing restriction, sign any instruments, and take any other action necessary to carry out this vote.

Action taken 5/14/2008.

ARTICLE 20. Community Preservation Act – Historical Preservation (Community Preservation Act Committee)

A. VOTED as amended to appropriate \$54,400 from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for the following historic preservation projects:

Woman's Club Carriage House	\$8,800
Archival Documents Conservation/Restoration	\$20,000
575 North East Street (Kimball Farm- year 2 of 5)	\$25,600

Action taken on 5/14/2008.

B. VOTED as amended to:

1) authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, eminent domain, or negotiated purchase parcels of land containing 0.55 acres, more or less, designated as Map 14B, Parcels 250-251 of the Town Cadastre, located north of Main Street, from Hills House LLC, to be managed and controlled by the Parks Commission in consultation with the Amherst Historical Commission for historical preservation and passive recreation purposes,

- 2) appropriate \$270,000 for the acquisition of said land, and to meet such appropriation, appropriate and transfer \$81,000 from the Community Preservation Fund annual estimated revenues, with the additional \$189,000 to be borrowed in anticipation of receipt of a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to G.L. c. 44, s. 6A.
- 3) authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority,
- 4) authorize the Town Manager or his designee to file on behalf of the Town any and all applications deemed necessary under the Urban Self-Help Act (M.G.L. Chapter 933, Acts of 1977, as amended) or any other applications for funds in any way connected with the scope of this acquisition, and to accept gifts, bequests, and grants from individuals, groups, corporations,
- 5) authorize the Town Manager and/or the Select Board, as they deem appropriate, to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments including the conveyance of perpetual deed restrictions on said properties, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 184 as required by Section 12(a) of Chapter 44B as may be necessary on behalf of the Town to effect said purchase, in conjunction with the acceptance by the Historical Commission of historical preservation agreements on the adjacent parcels designated as Map 14B, Parcels 18 and 252.

 Action taken on 6/11/2008.
- ARTICLE 21. Community Preservation Act Open Space (Community Preservation Act Committee) **A. VOTED unanimously** to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues \$20,000 for appraisals and surveys to support the purchase of Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR's), Conservation Restrictions (CR's) and fee acquisitions of land. Action taken on 5/14/2008.
- **B. VOTED** to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues \$20,000 for appraisals, surveys, wetlands delineations and associated studies to support the purchase of land for recreation in Amherst.

 Action taken on 5/14/2008.
- **C. VOTED** to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues \$80,000 for the purchase of an Agricultural Preservation Restriction in South Amherst (Map 23B, Parcel 30), and to meet such appropriation accept gifts, bequests, and grants from individuals, groups, corporations, and authorize the Select Board to acquire an Agricultural Preservation Restriction in South Amherst (Map 23B, Parcel 30) and, upon the tender of a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Agricultural Preservation Program, to convey an interest in such Agricultural Preservation Restriction to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be held in common with the Town. Action taken on 5/14/2008.
- **D. DEFEATED** [To see if the Town will appropriate \$2,500 from the Community Preservation Act Fund annual revenues or available funds for an appraisal of property located easterly of South East Street, owned by Levi Nielsen Co., Inc. and identified on the Town cadastre at parcels 17D-24 consisting of 6.69 acres more or less and parcel 17D-21 consisting of .73 acres more or less.]

 Action taken on 5/14/2008.
- **E. DISMISSED** [To see if the Town will appropriate \$35,000 from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues for the purchase of land for open space purposes located easterly of South East Street, owned by Levi Nielsen Co., Inc. and identified on the Town cadastre at parcels 17D-24 consisting of 6.69 acres more or less and parcel 17D-21 consisting of .73 acres more or less and;

To authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift or negotiated purchase parcels of land containing 7.0 acres, more or less, designated as Map 17D, Parcels 24 and 21.]

Action taken on 5/14/2008.

ARTICLE 22. Community Preservation Act – Kimball House (Community Preservation Act Committee)

VOTED to appropriate \$50,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve to fulfill the compensation agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the Kimball House Historic Preservation Restriction.

Action taken on 5/14/2008.

ARTICLE 23. Community Preservation Act Committee – Administrative and Reserve Fund (Community Preservation Act Committee)

A. VOTED to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues \$1,500 for administrative expenses.

Action taken on 5/14/2008.

B. DISMISSED [To reserve to a Budgeted Reserve Fund for future appropriations] Action taken on 5/14/2008.

ARTICLE 24. Community Preservation Act Ballot Question for November, 2008 State Election (Select Board)

VOTED Yes 92, No 71 to amend the actions taken under Article 2 of the Special Town Meeting held on February 12, 2001, and under Article 38 of the Annual Town Meeting held on May 1, 2006, to increase from one and a half percent to three percent, the surcharge authorized thereunder, and to place on the ballot for the November 4, 2008 State Election a question regarding acceptance of such amended surcharge, all as provided in M.G.L. c.44B, §§ 3 and 16(a). Action taken on 5/28/2008.

ARTICLE 25. Zoning Amendment – Density Calculation (Planning Board)

VOTED by a declared two-thirds to add a new Section 4.12 and amend Sections 4.3231, 4.330, and 4.520 of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting the lined out language and adding the language in *bold italics*, as follows:

A. Add a new Section 4.12, as follows:

4.12 If the calculation of maximum density of lots or units for any development method referencing this section results in a figure including a fraction equal to 0.5 or greater, then the figure shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number. If the fraction is less than 0.5, the figure shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number. Dimensional requirements established for building lots in the applicable zoning district(s) and under the applicable development method shall remain in full force and effect, and shall not be altered by the provisions of this section.

B. Amend Sections 4.3231, 4.330, and 4.520, as follows:

4.3231 The maximum density of a cluster subdivision, except for an affordable cluster, shall not exceed the allowed density for a standard subdivision in any zoning district, said density to be calculated by taking the parcel area, subtracting 10% of that area and dividing that number by the minimum lot area of the zoning district in which the parcel is located. *See Section 4.12.* In addition, it is the intention of this Section that the cluster subdivision not result in more lots than would be approved for a standard subdivision under a Definitive Subdivision Plan, *except as may otherwise be authorized under this Bylaw*.

- 4.330 The Planning Board may authorize a greater number of building lots than would be allowed by the density requirements of Section 4.3231 or Section 4.327 only if a minimum of 10% of the total dwelling units in the development are affordable units as herein defined. In no event shall the Board authorize a greater number of building lots than 120% of the maximum number of lots otherwise allowed under the applicable development method. For the purpose of this calculation, 10% of the total parcel size shall be subtracted for road allowance prior to calculating the maximum density normally allowed. *See Section 4.12*.
- 4.520 The maximum density allowed in an Open Space Community Development shall be calculated as follows:
 - 1. Determine the Net Parcel Area by subtracting 75% of the area of all Unbuildable Land Area from the total parcel acreage. Unbuildable Land Area shall consist of the combined acreage of all wetlands, FPC District and 100-year floodplain areas. 100-year floodplain areas shall consist of those areas so designated on federal flood insurance maps.
 - 2. Subtract 8% of the Net Parcel Area for roadways, parking and utilities.
 - 3. Divide the remaining buildable land area by the minimum lot area required in the applicable zoning district(s).
 - 4. Multiply the resulting lot count by 1.2 (120%) to derive the maximum density. *See Section 4.12*.
 - 5. Where no lots are to be provided in an OSCD, the maximum density resulting from this calculation shall serve as the total base dwelling unit count.

Action taken on 5/14/2008.

ARTICLE 26. Zoning Amendment - 500-502 Sunderland Road (Planning Board) **DEFEATED Yes 63, No 117** [To see if the Town will amend the Official Zoning Map to change the zoning district designation on Assessors Map 2A, Parcels 51 and 52 from Outlying Residence (R-O) and Low Density Residence/Farmland Conservation overlay (RLD/FC) to Village Center Residence (R-VC).]

Action taken on 5/19/2008.

ARTICLE 27. Zoning Amendment - Municipal Parking District (Planning Board) **VOTED, as amended, by a declared two-thirds** to amend the Official Zoning Map and Sections **2.04**, **3.2, and 7.4** of the Zoning Bylaw, by deleting the lined out language and adding the language in *bold italics*, as follows:

A. To amend Section 2.04, as follows:

2.04 Educational Special Districts

ED Educational

ED zoning allows any use of land and buildings which may legally be carried on by, or under the auspices of, the college or university which owns or manages the property. It is intended that the Educational District only include land which is owned or managed by Amherst College, Hampshire College, or the University of Massachusetts.

MP Municipal Parking

The MP District is an overlay district intended to include selected areas of the downtown General Business (B-G) District and abutting General Residence (R-G) District. Within the MP District, a wide range of permitted retail, service, commercial, and residential uses shall be exempted from the requirement to provide off-street parking spaces. It is the policy of the Town of Amherst to encourage dense multi-use development in its Town Center. Toward that end, provision of off-street parking is not required for selected uses within the MP District.

B. To amend Section 3.2, as follows:

SECTION 3.2 SPECIAL DISTRICTS REQUIREMENTS

3.26 [RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE] Municipal Parking District See Section 7.4 of this Bylaw for Purpose and Requirements

C. To amend Section 7.4, as follows:

SECTION 7.4 MUNICIPAL PARKING ZONE DISTRICT

7.40 General

The Municipal Parking District is an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying district shall remain in full force and shall not be modified by the conditions of the MP District unless superseded by the restrictions and prohibitions of the MP District.

7.41 Establishment of District

The Municipal Parking District shall consist of those geographic areas shown for this district on the Official Zoning Map. This District is configured to include those lands which constitute the developed core of the downtown business area and immediately abutting residential areas.

7.42 Purpose

The purpose of this district is to encourage the dense development of mixed-use buildings and pedestrian spaces in Amherst Town Center. Toward that end, provision of off-street parking is not required for selected uses within the MP District.

7.43 Regulation

Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Ssection 7.0, off-street parking spaces need not be provided for any principal or related accessory uses under the following categories of Section 3.3, Use Chart: Residential Use (Section 3.32), Retail Business of and Consumer Service Use (Section 3.35), and any Commercial or Research and Industrial Use (Section 3.37), or any Residential Use (Section 3.32) excepting fraternities, sororities, dormitory, hotel or motel, which is located within the "Municipal Parking Zone" District as herein defined. The

"Municipal Parking Zone" shall consist of that portion of the area now or subsequently designated as a General Business District, which lies within the following bounds: The following uses shall be required to meet the parking requirements of this Bylaw within the MP District: dormitory or similar college residence hall, hotel or motel, inn, and all other principal and accessory uses under other categories of Section 3.3, Use Chart.

On the north: Kellogg Ave., and an extension of its center line to the west;

On the east: Churchill St. and an extension of its center line to the north and south;

On the south: College Street and an extension of its center line to the west;

On the west: North and South Prospect Streets.

C. To add the Municipal Parking overlay district to the Official Zoning Map.

Action taken on 5/14/2008.

*Motion to refer back to Planning Board was defeated.

At 10:01 p.m. on May 14, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, May 19, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 163 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The May 19, 2008 session, adjourned from May 15, 2008, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:42 p.m. 127 town meeting members were checked in.

Town Meeting resumed with Article 8 which was postponed from April 28, 2008, and continued with Article 17, Part C, which was postponed from May 19, 2008, and Article 26 which was postponed from April 30, 2008.

ARTICLE 28. Zoning Amendment - Design Review Districts (Planning Board)

VOTED, as amended, by a declared two-thirds to amend the Official Zoning Map and Sections 2.04 and 3.2 of the Zoning Bylaw, by deleting the lined out language and adding the language in **bold italics**, as follows:

A. To amend Section 2.04, as follows:

2.04 Educational Special Districts

ED Educational

ED zoning allows any use of land and buildings which may legally be carried on by, or under the auspices of, the college or university which owns or manages the property. It is intended that the Educational District only include land which is owned or managed by Amherst College, Hampshire College, or the University of Massachusetts.

DR Design Review

The DR District is an overlay district intended to include the General Business (B-G) District, and the abutting Limited Business (B-L) districts. The purpose of the DR District is to support the success and vitality of Amherst's Town Center by assuring that the historic character, aesthetic character, and functional quality of the design of Town Center buildings and sites are protected and enhanced. The DR District corresponds to

those areas where the exterior design of new development or alterations requiring permits is subject to review by the Design Review Board.

TCDR Town Common Design Review

The TCDR District is an overlay district intended to include the Amherst Town Common and sites within 150 feet of the Common greenspace, as measured from the outside edges of the curbs bordering the three sections of the Common, parking lots and interior roadways inclusive. The purpose of the TCDR District is to protect and enhance of the design of the historic Town Common and that of the surrounding buildings and landscapes. The TCDR District corresponds to those areas where the exterior design of new development or alteration on or within the vicinity of the Town Common is subject to review by the Design Review Board.

B. To amend Section 3.2, as follows:

SECTION 3.2 SPECIAL DISTRICTS REQUIREMENTS

3.20 Design Review *Districts*

3.200 General

The Design Review District (DR) and Town Common Design Review District (TCDR) are overlay districts and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this Bylaw. Restrictions and prohibitions of land use in the underlying district shall remain in full force, and shall not be modified by the conditions of the DR or TCDR Districts unless superseded by the restrictions and prohibitions of said districts.

3.2000 Establishment of Districts

The Design Review District (DR) and Town Common Design Review District (TCDR) shall consist of the geographic areas shown for these districts on the Official Zoning Map.

3.200 *3.2001* Purpose

The purpose of this section *and these districts* is to preserve and enhance the Town's cultural, economic and historical resources by providing for a detailed review of all changes in land use, the appearance of structures and the appearance of sites which may affect these resources. The review procedures are intended to:

- 1) Enhance the social and economic viability of the Town by preserving property values and promoting the attractiveness of the Town as a place to live, visit and shop;
- 2) Encourage the conservation of buildings and groups of buildings that have aesthetic or historic significance;

- 3) Prevent alterations that are incompatible with the existing environment or that are of inferior quality or appearance; and
- 4) Encourage flexibility and variety in future development.

3.201 Design Review Board [NO CHANGE]

3.202 Reviewable Actions

The following types of actions shall be subject to review by the Design Review Board and shall be subject to the design standards herein.

3.2020 Actions in the Downtown B-G & B-L DR Districts

All new structures, alterations or additions to existing structures, changes in outdoor land use or changes in site design which require a building permit, Site Plan Review, Special Permit or Variance and which affect the exterior architectural appearance of a building or site shall be subject to review by the Design Review Board, provided that the action occurs within the General Business (B-G) District or abutting Limited Business (B-L) zoning districts.

3.2021 Exterior actions within 150 feet of the Town Common Actions in the TCDR District

Any construction, alteration, demolition or removal that affects the exterior architectural appearance of a building or site shall be subject to review by the Design Review Board provided that the site is on or within 150 feet of the Amherst Town Common, as measured from the outside edges of the curbs bordering the three sections of the Common's greenspace, parking lots and interior road ways inclusive.

Exterior architectural appearance shall be defined as the architectural character and general composition of the exterior of a building, including but not limited to the kind, color and texture of building materials, including paint color, and the type, design and character of all windows, doors, light fixtures, signs, awnings, utility and ventilation structures and all other appurtenant elements.

The appearance of a site shall be defined as the character, layout and general composition of the site, including but not limited to the kind, color and texture of such materials as plantings, paving, benches, site lighting, free-standing signs, utility structures and all other appurtenant elements.

3.2022 Actions by Town Government [NO CHANGE]

C. To add the Design Review (DR) and Town Common Design Review (TCDR) overlay districts to the Official Zoning Map.

Action taken on 5/19/2008.

ARTICLE 29. Petition – Zoning Bylaw – Steep Slopes (O'Connor)

VOTED to refer Article 29 to the Planning Board for future action.

[To see if the town will vote to amend the Amherst Zoning Bylaw by adding the following to the appropriate place in Section 12 'Definitions' and renumbering succeeding sections as necessary:

Steep Slopes: Notwithstanding any other provision of this Bylaw, no portion of any parcel which has a slope of more than 15%, except a lot existing as of February 1, 2008 for a one- or two-family dwelling or for a permitted subdividable dwelling, shall count toward meeting any dimensional requirement of this Bylaw except frontage."] Action taken on 5/19/2008.

ARTICLE 30. Petition – Zoning Bylaw – Inclusionary Zoning (O'Connor)

VOTED unanimously to refer the proposed section 15.14 to the Planning Board and the Leisure Services Commission for future action. [To see if the town will vote to amend the Amherst Zoning Bylaw by adding to Bylaw Section 15.0 'Intent and Purpose' and Section 15.10 as follows, by adding to Article 15 'Inclusionary Zoning' as Sections 15.13 and 15.14 the following, and by renumbering as necessary exiting sections (additions in *boldface italic*, deletions in *strikethru*):

Section 15.0 Intent and Purpose The purpose of this Article is to promote the general public welfare, including but not limited to ensuring an economically integrated and diverse community, by maintaining and increasing the supply of affordable and accessible housing in the Town of Amherst that includes active and passive on-site recreational facilities, or as an alternative to the provision and permanent maintenance of such recreational facilities, the payment into a Town of Amherst Recreational Capital Fund of a \$5,000 per unit development impact fee.

Section 15.10. All residential development requiring a Special Permit and resulting in additional new dwelling units shall provide affordable housing units, 50% of which shall be countable for the purposes of the Commonwealth's 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory or its successor, at the following minimum rates:

Section 15.13 All housing units except those located on the second floor or above in residential developments requiring a special permit and resulting in five or more new dwelling units shall be front-door accessible – built to standards that allow unimpeded entry by a person in a wheelchair. In developments, required to provide fire or more fully accessible units, the special permit granting authority may require that an equal or larger number of units shall, except for kitchen facilities, be built as ground-floor accessible.

Section 15.14 Every application for a residential development requiring a special permit and resulting in five or more new housing units shall be referred to the LSSE Director and Commission of the Town of Amherst for their recommendations regarding the nature, extent and maintenance requirements of such on-site recreational facilities as would be consistent with national or regional standards, which recommendations shall take into account existing recreational facilities near the residential development's proposed location within the town. The LSSE Director and Commission shall have 35 days from their receipt of such referral to submit their comments to the special permit granting authority."]

Action taken on 5/19/2008.

ARTICLE 31. Inclusionary Zoning (Planning Board Alternative to Petition) (Planning Board) **VOTED** to amend Sections 3.32, 4.1, 10.323, 11.230, and Article 15 of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting the lined out language and adding the language in *bold italics*, as follows:

A. VOTED, as amended, by a declared two-thirds to amend Section 3.32 as follows:

SECTION 3.32 RESIDENTIAL USES

See Article 4 for *Cluster Development*, Planned Unit Residential Development and Cluster Development *Open Space Community Development*.

Action taken under **Motion I** on 5/19/2008.

- **B. VOTED** to amend Section 4.1, as follows:
 - 4.10 All Developments in the Town shall conform to the Design Standards and Required Improvements set forth in the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land, and the Street and Site Work Construction Standards of the Town, and all other applicable Town roadway and utility policies and regulations, as amended.
 - 4.11 Where building lots are required or proposed, The lot frontage of lots shall be on existing or proposed minor or secondary streets, whether public or private statutory ways, as such streets are defined by the Amherst Planning Board's Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land except as provided for in Section 4.4214 and Section 4.534.

Action taken under **Motion II** on 5/19/2008.

VOTED to refer Section 4.12 of Part B of the Article to the Planning Board and Disability Access Advisory Committee.

[4.12 All new ground floor dwelling units shall have at least one primary entrance that is fully handicapped accessible under the provisions of Massachusetts Architectural Access Board regulations (521 CMR), as amended.]

Action taken under **Motion III** on 5/19/2008.

C. VOTED by a declared two-thirds to amend Section 10.323, as follows:

10.323 Upon receipt of an application for a Special Permit, the Special Permit Granting Authority shall transmit copies of the application and plans to appropriate Town boards and officials which may include: the Building Commissioner, Planning Director, Town Engineer, Fire Chief, Conservation Director, Board of Health, Historical Commission, Public Transportation Committee, *Leisure Services Commission*, and others as necessary. These boards and officials shall have thirty-five (35) days to report to the Special Permit Granting Authority their findings and recommendations. Failure to report in the allotted time shall constitute approval by that board or official of the application submitted.

Action taken under **Motion I** on 5/19/2008.

D. VOTED by a declared two-thirds to amend Section 11.230, as follows:

11.230 The Planning Board shall transmit copies of the application and site plan to appropriate Town Boards, and departments which may include: the Town Engineer, Fire Chief, Conservation Department, Building Commissioner, Board of Health, Historical Commission, Public Transportation Committee, *Leisure Services Commission*, and others as necessary. These Boards and departments shall have thirty-five (35) days to report to the Planning Board their findings and recommendations. Failure to report in the allotted time shall constitute approval by that Board or Department of the application submitted.

Action taken under **Motion I** on 5/19/2008.

E. VOTED, as amended, by a declared two-thirds to amend the following subsections of Article 15, as follows:

15.0 Intent and Purpose

The purpose of this Article is to promote the general public welfare, including but not limited to ensuring an economically integrated and diverse community, by maintaining and increasing the supply of affordable *and accessible* housing in the Town of Amherst

15.10 All residential development requiring a Special Permit and resulting in additional new dwelling units shall provide affordable housing at the following minimum rates:

Total Development Required Affordable

<u>Unit Count</u> <u>Unit Provision</u>

1-9 units None*

10-14 units Minimum one (1) dwelling unit 15-20 units Minimum two (2) dwelling units 21 units Minimum 12% of total unit count

Where two or more units are required to be provided under this section, a minimum of forty-nine percent (49%) of affordable units shall be eligible and countable for the purpose of the Commonwealth's 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) or its successor. For developments of 21 or more total units, c Calculation of the number of total affordable units or the number of SHI-eligible units shall, if the required percent of the total results in a fraction, be rounded up to the next whole number where the fractional portion is equal to 0.5 or greater, and shall be rounded down to the next whole number where the fractional portion is less than 0.5.

15.11 Affordable and *accessible* dwelling units provided under Section 15.10 shall be counted as meeting the requirements for affordability density bonuses under the provisions of Section 4.55,0.0 (Open Space Community Developments) *Density Bonuses, of this Bylaw.*

Action taken under **Motion IV** on 5/19/2008

*Motion made by Ms. Gray in terms of Part E was defeated. Ms. Gray's amended motion would have returned to the original article language of "a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of affordable units" under Section 15.10.

At 10:29 p.m. on May 19, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 191 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The May 21, 2008 session, adjourned from May 19, 2008, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:40 p.m. 127 town meeting members were checked in.

^{*} While provision of affordable units is not required for developments containing 1-9 units under this section, the Bylaw encourages affordability and provides for incentives. See Sections 4.33 and 4.55.

Town Meeting resumed with consideration of Article 12 – Elementary Schools and Regional School.

* * *

The May 28, 2008 session, adjourned from May 21, 2008, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:43 p.m. 127 town meeting members were checked in.

Town Meeting voted, Yes 90: No 46, to postpone consideration of Article 20 B until after Article 47. Town Meeting voted to consider Article 40 after Article 24.

ARTICLE 32. Petition – Zoning bylaw – Main/Dickinson/High Rezoning (O'Connor) **VOTED unanimously** to refer Article 32 back to the Planning Board. Action taken on 5/28/2008.

ARTICLE 33. Petition – Request Planning Board to Develop Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Meet LEED (Weyl)

VOTED to request that the Planning Board, working with any other appropriate boards, committees or departments, develop and propose a new Town by-law which would minimize the short term and the long term negative impact construction has on the environment; and that in developing such a proposal, the Planning Board use the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards and the MA-CHPS (Massachusetts Collaborative for High Performance Schools) standards and other third-party rating systems as guidelines, said by-law to apply to all newly constructed and all major renovations to Town buildings, and to all newly constructed private commercial, office and multiple-residence buildings.

Action taken on 5/28/2008

ARTICLE 34. Petition – Amend Town Government Act or Adopt a Bylaw – Criteria for Town Property Use (Jolly/Roberts)

DISMISSED ["To see if the Town will adopt a bylaw, amend the Amherst Town Government Act, or take other action requiring the Selectboard to establish criteria for the use of Town property by community organizations, and to act on requests for such use."]

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 35. Petition – 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee Appropriation (Wagner/Roberts) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for use by the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee in commemoration of the Town's two hundred fiftieth anniversary. Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 36. Petition – Transfer from Free Cash to Stabilization Fund (Gawle)

VOTED to refer Article 36 to the Finance Committee. [To see if the town will transfer the sum of \$2,524,533 from the certified free cash account to the stabilization fund or take any vote or votes relative thereto.] Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 37. Free Cash

VOTED to appropriate and transfer \$425,000 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to balance the 2009 Fiscal Year.

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 38. Stabilization Fund (Finance Committee)

DISMISSED [To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund.]

ARTICLE 39. Bylaw – Rescind Recombinant DNA Bylaw (Board of Health)

VOTED to amend Article III of the General Bylaws by striking the section entitled "Application of Recombinant DNA Technology" in its entirety.

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

*Motion made by Mr. Mudgett to refer this article to the Board of Health and Select Board was defeated.

ARTICLE 40. Bylaw – Nuisance House (Select Board)

VOTED Yes 127, No 34 as amended to adopt the Nuisance House Bylaw as printed in the warrant. [To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town by adding the following bylaw, "Nuisance House", to Article II, Prohibitions:]

Purpose

In accordance with the Town of Amherst's Home Rule Authority, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town, this bylaw shall permit the Town to impose liability on owners and other responsible persons for the nuisances and harm caused by loud and unruly gatherings on private property and shall discourage the consumption of alcoholic beverages by underage persons at such gatherings.

§1. Definitions

Alcohol means ethyl alcohol, hydrated oxide of ethyl, or spirits of wine, from whatever source or by whatever process produced.

Alcoholic beverage means all liquids intended for human consumption as a beverage which contain one half of one percent or more of alcohol by volume at sixty degree Fahrenheit, including malt beverages.

Eviction means actively trying to evict a tenant from a premise by delivery of a notice to quit and subsequent court proceedings, if a tenant fails to vacate the premises.

Gathering is a party, gathering, or event, where a group of persons have assembled or are assembling for a social occasion or social activity.

Legal Guardian means (1) a person who, by court order, is the guardian of the person of a minor; or (2) a public or private agency with whom a minor has been placed by the court.

Underage Person means any person under twenty-one years of age.

Parent means a person who is a natural parent, adoptive parent, foster parent, or stepparent of another person.

Premises means any residence or other private property, place, or location, including any commercial or business property.

Property owner means the legal owner of record as listed by the tax assessors records.

Public Nuisance means a gathering of persons on any premises in a manner which constitutes a violation of law or creates a substantial disturbance of the quiet enjoyment of private or public property in a significant segment of a neighborhood. Unlawful conduct includes, but is not limited to excessive noise, excessive pedestrian and vehicular traffic, obstruction of public streets by crowds or vehicles, illegal parking, public drunkenness, public urination, the service of alcohol to underage persons, fights, disturbances of the peace, and litter.

Response costs are the costs associated with responses by law enforcement, fire, and other emergency response providers to a gathering as set forth in a schedule of costs established by the Board of Selectmen.

§2. Consumption of Alcohol by Underage Persons Prohibited in Public Place, Place Open to Public, or Place Not Open to Public

Except as permitted by state law, it is unlawful for any underage person to:

- (a) consume at any public place or any place open to the public any alcoholic beverage; or
- (b) consume at any place not open to the public any alcoholic beverage, unless in connection with the consumption of the alcoholic beverage the underage person is being supervised by his or her parent or legal guardian as set forth in G.L. c.138, §34.
- §3. Hosting, Permitting, or Allowing a Public Nuisance or Party, Gathering, or Event Where Underage Persons Consuming Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited
 - (a) It is the duty of any person having control of any premises who knowingly hosts, permits, or allows a gathering at said premises to take all reasonable steps to prevent the consumption of alcoholic beverages by any underage person at the gathering. Reasonable steps include, but are not limited to, controlling access to alcoholic beverages at the gathering; controlling the quantity of alcoholic beverages present at the gathering; verifying the age of persons attending the gathering by inspecting driver's licenses or other government-issued identification cards to ensure that underage persons do not consume alcoholic beverages while at the gathering; and supervising the activities of underage persons at the gathering.
 - (b) A gathering constituting a public nuisance may be abated by all reasonable means including, but not limited to, an order by the Police requiring the gathering to be disbanded and citation and/or arrest of any persons under any applicable provision of local or state law.
 - (c) It is unlawful for any person having control of any premises to knowingly host, permit, or allow a gathering to take place at said premises where at least one underage person consumes an alcoholic beverage, provided that the person having control of the premises either knows an underage person has consumed an alcoholic beverage or reasonably should have known that an underage person consumed an alcoholic beverage and the person having control of said premises failed to take all reasonable steps to prevent the consumption of an alcoholic beverage by an underage person as set forth in subsection (a) of this Section.
 - (d) This Section shall not apply to conduct involving the use of alcoholic beverages that occurs exclusively between an underage person and his or her parent or legal guardian as set forth in G.L. c.138, §34.
 - (e) This Section shall not apply to any Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission licensee at any premises regulated by the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission.
- §4. Mailing of Notice to Property Owner.

Notice of response by police or other local officials to a gathering shall be mailed to any property owner listed on the Town of Amherst property tax assessment records and shall advise the property owner that the third such response on the same premises within a one year period, as measured from the date of the first notice, shall result in liability of the property owner for all penalties associated with such response as more particularly described below.

§5. Persons Liable for a First and Second Response to a Gathering Constituting a Public Nuisance.

If the police department is required to respond to a gathering constituting a public nuisance on the premises, the following persons shall be jointly and severally liable for fines as set forth below. Response costs may also be assessed.

- (a) The person or persons residing on or otherwise in control of the property where such gathering took place.
- (b) The person or persons who organized or sponsored such gathering.
- (c) All persons attending such gatherings who engage in any activity resulting in the public nuisance.
- §6. Persons Liable for a Third and Subsequent Response to a Gathering Constituting a Public Nuisance.

If the police department is required to respond to a gathering constituting a public nuisance on the premises more than twice in any one year period, as measured from the date of the first response, the following persons shall be jointly and severally liable for fines as set forth below. Response costs may also be assessed.

- (a) The person or persons who own the property where the gathering constituting the public nuisance took place, provided that notice of the first and second responses has been mailed to the owner of the property as set forth herein and the gathering occurs at least fourteen (14) days after the mailing the second such notice. The owner of the property shall not be held responsible for any violation and penalties if they are actively trying to evict a tenant from the property. The one year time period for violations for a property shall pertain only to the same residents occupying the property who have had the prior violation(s). New residents shall start a new time cycle of one year should they violate the bylaw.
- (b) The person or persons residing on or otherwise in control of the property where such gathering took place.
- (c) The person or persons who organized or sponsored such gathering.
- (d) All persons attending such gatherings who engage in any activity resulting in the public nuisance.

§7. Enforcement

This bylaw shall be enforced by criminal complaint in the District Court. Violations shall be punishable by a fine of \$300.00. In the alternative it may be enforced by the noncriminal disposition process of M.G.L. c.40 Section 21D. For the purpose of noncriminal enforcement, the enforcing persons shall be any police officer of the Town of Amherst. If enforced pursuant to noncriminal disposition, the following fines shall apply:

First offense: \$300

Second offense: \$300

Third and subsequent offense: \$300

The Town of Amherst may additionally seek administrative costs and response costs associated with enforcement of Sections 2 and 3, through all remedies or procedures provided by state or local law.

Sections 2 and 3 shall not limit the authority of police officers to make arrests for any criminal offense arising out of conduct regulated by Sections 2 and 3, nor shall they limit the Town of

Amherst or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' ability to initiate and prosecute any criminal offense arising out of the same circumstances necessitating the application of Sections 2 and 3.

§8. Local Authority and Severability

No provision of this bylaw shall apply where prohibited or preempted by state or federal law. If any provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is declared invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

Action taken on 5/28/2008.

At 10:03 p.m. on May 28, 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, June 2, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 172 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The June 2, 2008 session, adjourned from May 28, 2008, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:44 p.m. 127 town meeting members were checked in.

Town Meeting voted to consider Article 20B at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2008.

Town Meeting resumed with consideration of Article 34.

ARTICLE 41. Easement – University Drive (Select Board)

DISMISSED [To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase or eminent domain, temporary and permanent easements, and to dispose of excess temporary and permanent easements, for roadway construction and roadway safety improvements along a section of University Drive; all in accordance with a plan entitled "Preliminary Plan for Reconstruction and Related Work on University Drive in the Town of Amherst" prepared by Stantec, April 4, 2008, which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk. Easement areas are shown in Table 1 entitled "Parcel Summary Sheet".]

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 42. Street Acceptance – Moody Field Subdivision (Select Board)

VOTED unanimously to accept as a Town Way Moody Field Road as laid out by the Select Board and shown on plans of land filed with the Town Clerk, and authorize the Select Board to take by eminent domain, purchase or otherwise any fee, appurtenant rights, easements or other interest in land therefor, no appropriation being required.

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 43. Street Acceptance – Rosemary Street and Lilac Lane

VOTED unanimously as amended to accept as a Town Way Rosemary Street and Lilac Lane as laid out by the Select Board and shown on plans of land filed with the Town Clerk, and authorize the Select Board to take by eminent domain, purchase or otherwise any fee, appurtenant rights, easements or other interest in land therefor, no appropriation being required.

Action taken on 6/2/2008

ARTICLE 44. Street Acceptance – Eveningstar Drive 0 Select Board)

DISMISSED [To see if the Town will accept as a Town Way Eveningstar Drive as laid out by the Select Board and shown on plans of land filed with the Town Clerk, and authorize the Select Board to take by eminent domain,

purchase or otherwise any fee, appurtenant rights, easements or other interest in land therefor, no appropriation being required.]

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 45. Sewer Easement Adjustment – West Street (Select Board)

VOTED to abandon a certain sewer and drainage easement taken over the property of Hampshire College referenced in the Order of Taking recorded in Book 1543, Page 549 of the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, and to acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain for the construction of a sewer main, drainage and general utility purposes an easement shown in the plan entitled, "Easement Plan of Land in Amherst, Massachusetts Surveyed for the Inhabitants of the Town of Amherst," dated February 15, 2008, drawn by Heritage Surveys, Inc.

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 46. Bylaw - Right to Farm

VOTED unanimously as amended to adopt a new bylaw entitled "Right to Farm" as recommended by the Agricultural Commission

AMHERST RIGHT-TO-FARM BYLAW

Section 1. Legislative Purpose and Intent

The purpose and intent of this Bylaw is to state with emphasis the Right to Farm accorded to all citizens of the Commonwealth under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution and all state statutes and regulations thereunder, including but not limited to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, Section 3, Paragraph 1; Chapter 90, Section 9; Chapter 111, Section 125A; and Chapter 128, Section 1A. We the citizens of Amherst restate and republish these rights pursuant to the Town's authority conferred by Article 89 of the Articles of Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution ("Home Rule Amendment"). This General Bylaw encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agriculture-based economic opportunities, and protects farmlands within the Town of Amherst by allowing agricultural uses and related activities and promoting efficient conflict resolution with abutters and Town agencies.

Section 2. Definitions

The word "farm" shall include any parcel or contiguous parcels of land, or water bodies used for the primary purpose of agriculture. The words "farming" or "agriculture" or their derivatives shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- farming in all its branches and the cultivation and tillage of the soil;
- dairying;
- production, cultivation, growing, and harvesting of any agricultural, aquacultural, floricultural, viticultural, or horticultural commodities;
- growing and harvesting of forest products upon forest land, and any other forestry, lumbering, or tree-growing operations;
- raising of livestock including horses;
- keeping of horses as a commercial enterprise;
- keeping and raising of poultry, swine, cattle, sheep, cavies (such as rabbits) ratites (such as emus, ostriches, and rheas) and camelids (such as llamas, alpacas, and camels), and other domesticated animals for food and other purposes, including bees and fur-bearing animals;

- production and processing of crops for biofuels for the purpose of generating alternative energy;
- operation and transportation of all farm equipment over roads within the town;
- harvest of crops according to generally accepted agricultural practices
- control of pests including, but not limited to, insects, weeds, predators, and disease organisms of plants and animals;
- tillage, cultivation, and application of manure, fertilizers, and pesticides;
- conducting agriculture-related educational activities;
- conducting farm-based recreational activities, provided that the activities are related to marketing the agricultural output or services of the farm;
- processing and packaging of the agricultural output of the farm and the operation of a farmer's market or farm stand including signage thereto;
- maintenance, repair, or storage of seasonal equipment or apparatus owned or leased by the farm owner or manager used expressly for the purpose of propagation, processing, land management activities, or sale of the agricultural products;
- on-farm relocation of earth, and the clearing of ground for farming operation including burning brush in accordance with Massachusetts agricultural fire permit regulations (310 CMR 7.07); and
- construction and use of farm structures and facilities for the purpose of: storage of animal wastes, farm equipment, pesticides, fertilizers, agricultural products; housing of livestock; processing of animal wastes and agricultural products; season extension or hydroponic production of agricultural products; sale of agricultural products; or use by farm labor; construction and maintenance of fences; all as permitted by local and state building codes and regulations.

Section 3. Right to Farm Declaration

The Right to Farm is hereby recognized to exist with the Town of Amherst, in recognition of the benefits of farming to the neighborhood, community and society in general. The above-described agricultural activities may occur on holidays, weekdays, and weekends by night or day and shall include the attendant incidental noise, odors, dust, and fumes associated with normally accepted agricultural practices. The benefits and protections of this Bylaw are intended to apply exclusively to those agricultural and farming operations and activities conducted in accordance with generally accepted agricultural practices. Moreover, nothing in this Right to Farm Bylaw shall be deemed as acquiring any interest in land, or imposing any land use regulation, which is properly the subject of state statute, regulation, or local zoning bylaw. This Bylaw does not supersede local, state or federal laws or regulations or private covenants.

Section 4. Effective Date

This Bylaw shall be effective upon approval by the Massachusetts Attorney General and the publication and posting as required by law.

Section 5. Disclosure Notification to Real Estate Buyers

In order to allow prospective purchasers to make informed decisions prior to a real estate transaction and to promote harmony between farmers and their new neighbors after a transaction, the Town of Amherst requests selling landholders and/or their agents (and assigns) provide written notice to prospective purchasers substantially as follows:

"It is the policy of the Town of Amherst to conserve, protect and encourage the maintenance and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food and other agricultural products, and also for its natural and ecological value. This disclosure notification is to inform buyers that the property they are about to acquire lies within a town where farming activities occur. Such farming activities may include, but are not limited to, activities that cause noise, dust and odors. Purchasing, and henceforth occupying land within Amherst means that one should expect and accept such conditions as a normal and necessary aspect of living in Amherst."

Written notification may occur in one of several ways including but not limited to a disclosure form, addendum to a Purchase and Sale Agreement and should include an acknowledgement by the buyer that they have received notification.

Within 30 days after this Bylaw becomes effective the Select Board shall make available for use by selling landowners or their agents (and assigns) copies of example written notifications.

Within 30 days after this Bylaw becomes effective the Select Board shall prominently place in the town hall the above disclosure.

Section 6. Resolution of Disputes

Any person having a complaint about a farm or farming activity or practice is encouraged to seek an amicable solution through resolution directly with the owner or operator of the farm at issue. Such person may also, notwithstanding the pursuit of other available remedies, file such complaint with the Town Manager. The Town Manager will forward the complaint to the Agricultural Commission, and other board or officer deemed appropriate. The Agricultural Commission will seek an amicable resolution through facilitating discussion between the parties, and will report back to the Town Manager on the outcome within a reasonable time frame.

Section 7. Severability Clause

If any part of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remainder of this bylaw. The Town of Amherst hereby declares the provisions of this Bylaw to be severable.

Action taken on 6/2/2008.

ARTICLE 47. Bylaw – False Alarm Fees (Select Board) **VOTED** to amend the General Bylaws of the Town by adding the following Bylaw, "False Alarm Fees", to Article IV:

FALSE ALARM FEES

Any residence, school, municipal building or place of business which has an alarm system connected directly to the Police Department or connected indirectly to said Department through a private alarm company (each of which will be hereinafter referred to as a "monitored system"), shall be charged a fine for all responses by the Department to such buildings when the response is caused by: (1) the activation of the monitored system through mechanical failure, malfunction, improper installation, or negligence of the user of an alarm system or his employees or agents; or (2) the activation of the monitored system requesting, requiring or resulting in a response on the part of the Police Department when, in fact, there has been no unauthorized intrusion, robbery or burglary, or attempted threat. For the

purposes of this bylaw, activation of a monitored system for the purposes of testing with prior approval by the Police Department, or by an act of God, including, but not limited to, power outages, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes and similar weather or atmospheric disturbances shall not be deemed to be a false alarm. A fine for violation of this bylaw may be assessed against the owner or tenant of the residence or place of business.

Penalties for violation of this bylaw shall be as follows, successive responses to be counted within any twelve month period:

First three responses	Warning
Fourth response	\$ 50.00
Fifth response	\$ 75.00
Sixth response	\$100.00
Seventh response	\$150.00
Eighth and subsequent responses	\$200.00

This section may be enforced pursuant to the noncriminal disposition method as contained in M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 21D. Enforcing persons shall be police officers. Action taken on 6/2/2008.

At 9:25 p.m. on the 2nd day of June 2008, the meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 168 town meeting members were checked in.

* * *

The June 11, 2008 session, adjourned from June 2, 2008, was called to order by the Town Moderator, Harrison Gregg, at 7:42 p.m. 127 town meeting members were checked in.

Town Meeting resumed with consideration of Article 20, Part B.

* * *

The business of the warrant having been completed, town meeting voted to dissolve at 8:32 p.m. on June 11, 2008. 172 town meeting members were checked in.

Attest:

Sandra J. Burgess Town Clerk

*Historical Note:

The Moderator announced that this Annual Meeting, heretofore designated the Two Hundred Forty-Ninth would henceforth be recognized as the Two Hundred Fiftieth. Research by Elizabeth Sharpe, President of the Amherst Historical Society, has established that Amherst's first Annual Meeting as an independent district was held on March 19, 1759 with Ebenezer Dickinson as moderator; this Meeting, 249 years later, is therefore the Two Hundred Fiftieth Annual Meeting.

Among other business, the 1759 meeting:

- Elected officers, including selectmen, treasurer, constables, surveyors, tything men, fence viewers, hog reeves.
- Voted that "hogs rung & Yoakt According to Law may run at Large".
- Voted to "Hire Six Bulls for the District Service this Year".
- Voted "the Select men to Hire said Bulls".
- Set the salary for the minister at 66 pounds plus 15 pounds for firewood.

• Raised 20 pounds for schooling for the year.

Amherst continued to call itself a district until 1776 when, for the first time, the minutes refer to the Town of Amherst. According to Planning Director Jonathan Tucker, recognition as a Town was not officially granted by the Commonwealth until 1788.